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Saints trio in running for the England captaincy as Town boss gives some fighting talk

SEE SPORT

MP is the latest victim of email 'mugging' scam

PAGE 3

Fat's bad – £8m fleet to carry 50st patients

Breast is best . . . for now

A BREAST feeding club in Northampton is fighting for survival with mums, Kelly Israel with Xanthe, Lucy Moore with Franky and Patty Ahmed-Dal with Aydin, opposing the closure of the facility in Wellington Street. See page 9 for the full story.

BY LAUREN DAVIS
lauren.davis@HPnorthants.co.uk

HEALTH chiefs have splashed out £8 million in specially reinforced ambulances to cope with rising numbers of heavier patients.

The new purchases will soon be in action on the streets of Northampton where nearly a quarter of people qualify as clinically obese.

Figures from the National Obesity Observatory show that an estimated 24.1 per cent of people in the town are in the most severe weight category.

The East Midlands Ambulance Service (EMAS) has now ordered 80 emergency vehicles that are capable of carrying people weighing up to 50 stone.

The special ambulances will be divided between counties according to the size of the area, but patients' weight has already been outlined as a particular problem in Northamptonshire.

According to the latest NHS figures, the cost of treating obesity-related illnesses in the county is £60 million every year.

Diabetes, strokes, cancer and heart disease can all be linked to the condition, and NHS Northamptonshire's strategy for 2009-2014 highlighted reducing obesity levels as a "key priority".

Childhood weight problems are a particular concern with more than ten per cent of four and five year olds in Northampton qualifying as obese and more than 17 per cent of ten and 11 year olds in the same category.

EMAS denied that its existing fleet of 270 ambulances was insufficient and said that the purchase of special vehicles was part of continual improvement to the care it provides.

The service refused to comment on any individual cases where a standard vehicle had struggled to cope.

Each ambulance costs approximately £100,000 once it is fully equipped to deal with overweight patients' requirements.

The modifications include stretchers, ramps and hoists that are stronger and larger, specially designed chairs and even such details as bigger blood pressure cuffs.

A spokeswoman for EMAS said: "We're receiving 80 new ambulance vehicles, currently being built at a factory in Goole, North Lincolnshire.

"All vehicles will have bariatric capability which means we can transport patients up to the weight of 50 stone.

"We should start to receive the vehicles at the end of February and so they will begin to arrive in each of our divisions after then."

She added: "The ambulances are for all patients not just those who are obese. They won't be standing around waiting until they are called to an overweight patient.

"It's about making sure that our facilities can cater for any patient."

A person is considered obese if their body mass index is 30 or above and the number of people in this category across the region is on the rise.

Figures from the Office for National Statistics show that there were 12,397 hospital admissions related to obesity in the East Midlands in 2009-10, up from 10,213 the previous year.

In 2009 the region recorded 129,000 prescriptions for obesity-related drugs compared to 114,000 in 2008.

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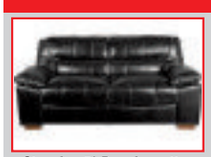

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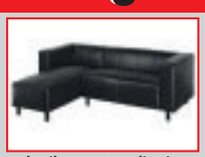

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Public give council Question Time a miss

BY LAUREN DAVIS
lauren.davis@HPnorthants.co.uk

COUNCIL leaders have defended the low turnout at a budget consultation evening this week.

Just 17 people attended Northamptonshire County Council's "Question Time" style event, which was designed to give members of the public the chance to question a panel of councillors and managers about the proposals.

Speaking before the event, Councillor Jim Harker, leader of the council, said: "Our budget consultation aims to give a wide variety of ways for people to have their say in ways that suits them best and this Question Time event is an important element of that."

But after so few people turned up at County Hall on Tuesday, the council was left to justify the two-hour session and appeal for more people to get involved, insisting that the "quality of the debate was very high".

A spokesman said: "The budget proposals are extremely important and affect a great number of people, therefore we would always encourage as many people as possible to attend.

"The county council's Question Time-style event was held as one of many ways people could have their say and ask questions about this year's Local Deal budget proposals.

"The event was attended by 17 people but the session was also webcast, so would have been available to a much wider audience. He added: "Attendees were not just individual members of the public but also representatives from a variety of organisations, who would in turn have represented a larger number of people."

"There is a wide range of other ways for people to have their say on the budget: such as writing to a dedicated Local Deal address, carrying out an online survey and through Facebook and Twitter.

"As the event was held on council premises there was no cost incurred."

■ What do you think? How do you feel about the question time event? Did you attend? Send your thoughts to letters@HPnorthants.co.uk

Looking at use of permits

RESIDENT parking schemes in Northampton could be scrapped if the majority of people say this is what they want.

There are eight in the town and five are still to be consult-ed on in Billing Road, The Mounts, Spring Boroughs, Tanner Street, the town centre and Victoria Gardens.

Permits are needed to park in these zones which are operational from Monday to Saturday.

The consultation, which runs until February 10, is to make sure the permits still meet the people's needs.

Once upon a time... Northampton had its very own castle

PLANS to put Northampton's castle back on the map stepped up a gear this week when a petition was opened to the public.

Friends of Northampton Castle (FoNC) are hoping to prove to local authorities that there is a groundswell of support for their proposals to increase the profile of the site.

Dr Marie Dickie, spokeswoman for FoNC, said: "We are trying to engage with as many members of the public as possible.

"We should be doing more to show off what we have left of the castle. We have been trying for some time but this is the ultimate moment now.

"Every time we talk to people about it there's a real buzz. People think, 'That would be wonderful – I'd love to take my children or grandchildren there'."

But Dr Dickie also pointed out the potential financial benefits in attracting tourists to the town.

The campaign group are also planning a medieval extravaganza in May.

The FoNC is currently formulating its final business proposal, which will soon be available online, and has commissioned an architect to create a virtual 3D model of the original building so that people can "walk around the castle".

The planned regeneration project centres around Marefair in West Northampton.

An initial outline of the plans said: "The numerous points of historic interest along Marefair are ideally suited to developing the street into a historic gateway leading towards the town centre from the train station."

A spokeswoman for English Heritage, which is reviewing the status of the site, said: "We have been asked to look in to whether the current scheduled part of Northampton Castle should be extended. Scheduling is the highest level of protection for heritage.

"We're in the early stages of looking in to the application and considering the research that's already been carried out."

For more information or to sign the petition visit www.northamptoncastle.com/petition.

Labour demands tighter control for town's nightspots

A POLITICAL party wants a stricter approach to licensing clubs and pubs.

The Labour group at Northampton Borough Council has put forward a proposal which it hopes will get cross party support.

In a speech to the full council last week, Labour's chief whip, Councillor Terry Wire, said his group feared with cuts from the previous Liberal Democrat administration the licensing team at the Tory-run authority will have fewer resources to fulfil their statutory duties.

At the meeting he said: "Our licensing function plays an important part in public safety by ensuring proper processes and procedures are in place that keeps us away from potential harm.

"For instance, the police need us to be an effective licensing authority to ensure the proper enforcement on the sale of alcohol.

"The police need us to enforce the conditions of every licence on each club and bar."

Speaking to the *Herald & Post*, Cllr Wire said the Labour group's document, which has been submitted to the council, will now go before the next licensing committee on Tuesday.

He said: "The theme is for a more robust approach.

"What we want to see are risk assessment categories.

"This would mean the more people that can be in a club the higher the category.

"If a club could hold 500 people then it would be placed in a risk category A, if it was 200 then risk category B and 50, risk category C.

"What we would like to do if it was a risk category A is to have the club inspected on a yearly basis.

"This is about an issue of safety. If teenagers go to these clubs they need to feel safe and we need to make sure they are safe.

"You really can't and should not approve an application on a blind basis.

"We are not saying every application should have a site visit but every application should be dealt with on its merits. We do not expect small public houses to have the same sort of thorough in depth study which a venue which could hold 2,000 would have.

"We do need to review the door staff and ensure they get the proper training.

"There should be a complete record on door staff and there should be a review of how they operate in an emergency.

"For this issue we need to work as a team as we want people to enjoy themselves."

In October two students died after a crushing incident at the town's Lava Ignite, which is now closed, but Cllr Wire added: "This is not about Lava & Ignite. We want to make sure things are ok."

Hacked MP victim of cash plea email con

BY LAUREN DAVIS
lauren.davis@HPnorthants.co.uk

AN MP had to reassure constituents that he was alive and well this week after emails saying he had been mugged were sent from his account.

Michael Ellis, MP for Northampton North, found himself "under a cyber attack" when mystery hackers sent what appeared to be a desperate plea from the politician.

His Westminster office was inundated with phone calls on Tuesday morning when people received the messages begging for money.

The fake email said: "I was involved in a robbery during my trip to Barcelona, Spain. I was mugged.

"All my belongings including mobile phone and credit card were all stolen. I need your help flying back home."

Recipients were then asked to "wire funds" to the "cash-strapped" MP.

"I need you to lend me some money to sort myself out of this predicament. I will pay back once I make it out of Spain."

Mr Ellis said he had informed

Michael Ellis MP

Parliamentary security and had asked the Metropolitan Police E-Crime Unit to investigate the bogus emails.

The MP's political account, ellis2win@googlemail.com, is believed to have been hacked into at about 8.30am.

Speaking from Westminster on Tuesday, Mr Ellis told the *Herald & Post*: "We are currently under a cyber attack.

"We knew within about 20 minutes – we were getting calls at quarter to nine.

"We have obviously had a hacker get into the campaign account.

"They have also changed the password and the security question, so there is very little we can do at the moment.

"We need the experts to help because there is no way we can get back in."

As well as the email, entitled "Trouble", the MP's Twitter account was also hacked, but he was unsure whether the attack was politically motivated.

He said: "I have no idea who might have done it. It could be random. It may not necessarily be anything to do with the fact that I am a Member of Parliament."

It is not known how many people the spam reached, but Mr Ellis said that the hackers had "probably sent it out it to everyone in the address book" using a computer programme.

Epic walker looking for donors

HE will cross three continents, 15 countries and 12,000 miles, but this week his journey takes him to Northampton.

James Thomas is walking from Scotland to New Zealand to raise money for children's charity UNICEF.

And so that as much money goes to the organisation as possible he is hoping that generous supporters along the route will provide his food or lodgings.

James began his journey to the other side of the world on January 7, setting out from Edinburgh.

He is due to arrive in Northampton today and hopes the people of the town will support his efforts.

He describes the ambitious project as "the biggest challenge of my life" and has already sold many of his belongings to help finance the trek.

But he also stressed that the mammoth walk is not just about him but also "a way to benefit others" through fundraising for a worthwhile cause.

As a photographer and documentary filmmaker, James will be posting updates of his travels online so that people can follow his progress towards Dunedin in New Zealand.

After leaving Northampton tomorrow he will continue south and then cross the North Sea to the Netherlands.

For more information or to donate visit www.justgoingforastroll.com

University set to hold Holocaust memorial

STUDENTS will be commemorating Holocaust Memorial Day tomorrow with a special series of activities.

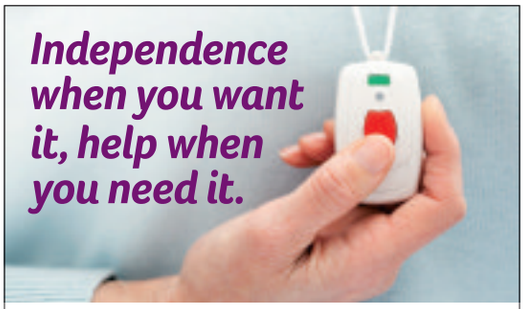
The University of Northampton will be holding a day-long programme of events at its Park Campus.

Members of the public are invited to join students and Michael Ellis, MP for Northampton North, who will be opening the day with vice chancellor of the university, Professor Nick Petford.

Activities will begin at 9.50am including sessions on "The Psychology of Genocide" and "The Holocaust on Film".

There will be a commemorative service at 1pm outside the student restaurant by the Anne Frank tree.

To pre-book sessions email UONhistory@gmail.com



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Time to clean up our act

ABOUT a year ago I, and several other readers, wrote letters about the litter-strewn state of the town's and county's highways and byways.

I think since then the size of the problem has doubled.

We could easily qualify as the dirtiest, scruffiest place in the UK.

I hope none of my friends and relatives from abroad decide to visit me this year because I would be ashamed to go out with them.

The people in the borough are not helped by the fact that their recycling bins do not have lids.

People in the Daventry and Towcester districts are supplied with lids which helps towards keeping the rubbish from blowing away on windy days. One of my biggest moans is reserved for people who pick up their dog mess then throw it away.

If you walk along the canal bank in Bugbrooke you will see the delightful spectacle of bags containing dog mess hanging from the hedges.

I don't think David Cameron has got it quite right; we don't live in a 'big society' we live in an utterly selfish one.

Daphne Flavell
Bugbrooke, Northampton

We weren't asked about residential lights

IN the article published last week about street lights a spokesperson for the Conservative-run County Council claimed that the street light switch off was consulted on as part of their "You Choose" budget consultation.

Unfortunately, this is simply not true.

If readers cast their minds back to this time last year they will remember that the Conservatives were consulting on budget proposals to cut £1m from street lights by switching them off in non-residential areas.

Readers will also remember that the Conservatives had a £15m black hole in their budget, due to the Tories' financial incompetence.

The cut to street lights in residential areas was a panic cut at the last minute to help fill that black hole.

The irony of filling a black hole by switching off half the lights is probably not lost on most people!

This cut, which has led to Northamptonshire being plunged into darkness and made people afraid to go out at night, was put forwards on the day consultation closed.

So it was never consulted on. For the Conservative-run council to try to pretend they asked people about this is completely dishonest.

The Conservatives have never consulted on the switch off in residential areas.

Conservative councillors at County Hall voted against Liberal Democrat proposals to keep the lights on in residential areas, and against separate Liberal Democrat motions to turn the lights back on in residential areas and allow more time for reviews of lights that were to be switched off.

The fact of the matter is that every Conservative councillor has been given several opportunities to stop this, but not a single one has actually used the vote that you, the residents, have given them to use on your behalf, to stop this crazy and dangerous switch off.

I hope that readers will remember these facts when the Conservatives come asking for their votes again next year.

Cllr Dennis Meredith
Liberal Democrat
Thorplands Division
Northamptonshire County Council

Calling all you brave adrenaline junkies

FOR thrill-seekers wishing to take on a special challenge this year, I would like to make you aware that a sponsored charity skydive is taking place at Hinton Airfield, Brackley, Northamptonshire, on Sunday, March 18, in aid of The Children's Trust.

Hinton Airfield is a small, private airfield in an area that borders Oxfordshire, Buckinghamshire and Warwickshire.

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For information about skydives raising money for The Children's Trust, please visit: www.thechildrenstrust.org.uk/skydive

The Children's Trust is a national charity, which provides care, therapy and education for children with multiple disabilities and complex health needs, and rehabilitation to children with an acquired brain injury.

I would also be delighted to hear from any local community groups, businesses or individuals who would like to help raise money for The Children's Trust by organising fundraising events in their local area.

Julia Hart
Community Fundraising Manager
North-East Home Counties
The Children's Trust

We must protect our cultural heritage

I FEEL it is only right to highlight the threats to Britain's cultural heritage from the draft National Planning Policy Framework (report, January 5).

The draft framework fails to provide enough protection for the settings of significant historic houses, associated buildings and their parks.

It has also yet to recognise that, for many ancient buildings, a supportive economic use is the best assurance of their future.

Finally, it does not understand that heritage plays a key role in Britain's tourism and a growing function in economic rejuvenation.

Unless these shortcomings are put right, the cultural and tourism merit of historic buildings will be put in jeopardy from unsuitable development.

Our heritage is an advantage that many other countries would be keen to have, and such buildings and surroundings have a key place in many aspects of our community.

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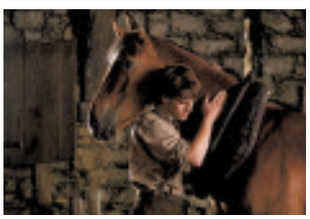

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Have say on bus project

MEMBERS of the public can still have their say on a new £8 million bus interchange for Northampton.

The development is earmarked for the site of the Fishmarket and will replace the current Greyfriars Bus Station which would be demolished, to make way for the Grosvenor Centre development. Plans went on display last week but if you have anything to say about the proposals you can email info@mgwsp.co.uk or write to NBI Project Manager, MGWSP, Riverside House, Riverside Way, Northampton, NN1 5NX.

The closing date for comments is Friday, February 3.

■ Have you seen the plans? Let us know what you think by emailing letters@HPnorthants.co.uk

Teen driver warning after crash kills pal

BY LAUREN DAVIS
lauren.davis@HPnorthants.co.uk

A TEENAGE driver caused the death of his 17-year-old passenger just months after he had passed his driving test.

George Robinson, 18, of Naseby Road, Clipston, was driving at 73mph on a country road when he crashed into a fence.

His front-seat passenger Jason Eaton, a performing arts student from Crick, was removed from the vehicle but later died in hospital from his injuries.

Emotions ran high at Northampton Crown Court on Friday as the events of October 5, 2010 were recounted, with the families and friends of the defendant and victim separated by a police liaison officer.

Jonathan Spicer, prosecuting, told how the friends had left Long Buckby with two other young men following behind in a VW Golf.

Robinson failed to brake as he approached a right-hand bend on the B403 and swerved off the road, destroying a 30-metre stretch of fence.

Mr Spicer said: "The massive impact crushed the roof and tore off the windscreen and both airbags were deployed."

After driving along the section of road, which has a 60mph limit, a collision investigator said the accident was caused by the defendant driving at too high a speed. He described it as "too fast for the bend and too fast for the experience of the driver".

In an interview with police Robinson said he had not been racing and initially did not accept that his speed had caused the crash.

He admitted that he had been driving at 80mph before the bend but said that he had slowed down as he came to it, and that the car had clipped the kerb.

Before he sentenced the defendant, Judge Rupert Mayo highlighted the sensitive nature of the case.

"What happened is effectively every parent's nightmare because a good life was rubbed out.

"There is a huge hole in their lives and they have lost a capable and loving son."

But he added: "I make it plain in fixing sentence that there is no way that this court can measure the quality or greatness of Jason Eaton."

Robinson's defence lawyer, Adam Wiseman, pointed out that the 18-year-old had a clean driving record prior to the offence and said he was "hard-working, trustworthy, and decent".

But Judge Mayo said the consequences of the crash should send a message to all young drivers.

"There is one major aggravating feature in this case, something I hope every 17 and 18-year-old driver will listen to. This accident occurred only three months and five days after you passed your driving test.

"It was not sustained bad driving. You were just driving too fast before the bend – far too fast as you approached the bend.

"Due to your lack of skill and experience you failed to negotiate the bend accurately and you killed your friend."

Robinson was sentenced to 18 months detention and disqualified from driving for two years, after he pleaded guilty to death by dangerous driving.

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Response training is bobbies on the beat

POLICE forces across the country and around the world are following a blueprint created by Northamptonshire Police when it comes to training response officers. To find out more about what the Force have achieved with the training programme, LAWRENCE JOHN spoke to Chief Inspector Andy Cox

EVERY day police officers are out on patrol in cars or walking the beat when an incident occurs and they find themselves having to react quickly.

They are under pressure to get to the scene as soon as possible, respond correctly, ascertain what needs to be done, deal with the public in a professional manner and to ensure the right procedure is followed.

Importantly they have to identify what are deemed as 'high risk situations' and how they should deal with them.

This is where Northamptonshire Police's 'High Risk Scenario Training' starts to pay dividends.

The groundbreaking tuition, which was launched in May last year, is devised to give officers the tools they need to deal with and identify high-risk scenarios in the critical 'golden hour' – the first 60 minutes of an incident – when a mistake can have a huge impact on the outcome.

It gets the police out of a classroom environment and dealing with 'in-the-field-training' via hypothetical real-time situations.

These are held at Kingswood School in Corby and the University of Northampton, with performing arts students taking part in the role play for each scenario.

The format for the training includes guest speakers from around the country, including family members who have lost loved ones because of police failings.

These speakers bring into stark reality the implication of a high-risk incident going wrong.

Experts from each relevant department help to develop the scenes that are created.

Each one is based on real-life examples from each of the following crime categories:

- Domestic abuse
- Missing persons
- Critical incidents - this would include a major incident such as like Raoul Moat scenario
- Rape/sudden death
- Anti-social behaviour
- Suicidal person

Chief Inspector Andy Cox said: "The officers need to understand what the triggers are for the risks.

"They can be sat in a classroom being told about legislation and how to do things but this is a new development which gives them real life scenarios.

"We hold the scenarios at the University of Northampton and Kingswood School.

"Performing arts students take part in the role play.

"We tell them (the officers) the areas which we will be testing them on. It is very important they prepare themselves for these areas.

"The students are given scripts which they work to but we do give them some flexibility.

"For those officers who struggle on the course we are there to support them and give them additional help. It is about

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broadening their knowledge and horizons.

"We involve experts who see how the officers perform. Then they talk to them about what they did well and what they need to improve.

"As well as this we have high profile victims who speak to the officers about how mistakes affected their lives.

"This is important as when they leave the course they know how serious this is and they have to get things right.

"Some of them are nervous before they start but afterwards they say they are able to deal with and recognise the risks."

The course takes three to four hours to complete as they go through six scenarios.

The success of the training course has led to Northants Police doing presentations to forces in Australia, New Zealand, the USA, Hong Kong and Holland.

They have also given advice to the Metropolitan, Greater Manchester and West Mercia police forces.

Once Northamptonshire Police show another force the training package they can then carry out their own which they can deliver themselves.

CI Cox said: "We are looking to develop the scenarios and in March will be doing an exercise with the control room which will be done via the phone.

"The training covers everyone including inspectors who have to know what to when dealing with multi-scenarios." The success of the training is clear, with many examples of better management of serious crime.

As a result complaints against the Incident Response Team have reduced by 33 per cent based on latest figures, compared to the same time last year. Some of the recent success stories involved a serious crime where the training matched a subsequent real-life incident and this meant improved recognition of risk and resulting actions which led to a much improved outcome.

Chief Inspector Andy Cox

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Mums unite to save baby café

BY LAWRENCE JOHN
lawrence.john@HPnorthants.co.uk

A BREAST feeding group for mums could close its doors by March if it does not get the necessary funding.

The Northampton Baby Club Café in Wellington Street has been funded by NHS Northamptonshire for the past eight years to the tune of £16,000 but this is now under threat.

The Mum to Mum project helps fund training for mothers who then help others who want to breast feed.

Breast feeding facilitator, Ann Davison said: "What we have done has been extremely well received by families who appreciate the help. This gives them practical support to get them on the right track

"It costs us £9,000 a year for two sessions a week.

"We will have to close the door at the end of March if we don't secure any funding. At the moment this is run under a licence from the Baby Café.

"What we offer here is specialist breast feeding support in an informal community setting.

PLEA: Mums wanting cafe to stay

"On Friday I put in an application to the Peter Robertson Trust for a grant and we are also seeing if the Northamptonshire Community Foundation could fund us."

To help with their campaign the mums have launched a Save Northampton's Baby Café page on Facebook which has already attracted 500 members.

The group holds two sessions a week. Friday attracts between 15 and 22 mothers, while on Monday there are between ten and 16.

Mum Alice Ellice said: "I joined four weeks ago. I have found the help given re-assuring as I have met mums in a similar situation to me. I have always wanted to breast feed and this has given me the support I needed.

"I think it would be really sad if it closed and I hope people support the campaign on Facebook."

A spokesman for NHS Northamptonshire said: "NHS Northamptonshire's public health budgets have not yet been finalised by government so no decision has yet been made about the funding of breast feeding services for 2012-13.

"NHS and other statutory budgets are under continued pressure and all services currently funded need to be cost-effective in order to attract ongoing funding.

"The Baby Café model used in Northampton incurs a cost which means continued funding is always under review.

"We are meeting with local providers next week to discuss how we can commission breastfeeding support in 2012/13. No decisions have yet been made."

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Mayor to propose town takes the fairer option

THE Mayor of Towcester wants it to become a Fairtrade town.

Councillor Martin Johns said: "Towcester becoming a Fairtrade town would benefit our local business community as well as suppliers and producers in developing countries. To become a Fairtrade town the council needs to agree and I will be making a proposal to councillors at our meeting next month."

Churches Together in Towcester are holding a Fairtrade craft fair on Saturday, March 3 in the town hall.

Farmer's £44k rap for meaty mistake

BY JULIA SUTTON
news@HPnorthants.co.uk

A FARMER has been fined for failing to properly dispose of the remains of a slaughtered cow.

Clive Patrick Lawrence, owner of Sheltons Farm Shop in East Haddon, also had illegally slaughtered beef in his unregistered store.

It follows a joint investigation by Northamptonshire County Council's trading standards and Daventry District Council's environmental health team.

At Northampton Magistrates' Court on Friday Lawrence was fined £27,000 and ordered to pay costs totalling £16,949. It followed a hearing on January 6 when Lawrence pleaded guilty to four charges relating to the identification and registration of his cattle, failure to comply with regulations regarding the disposal of animal by-products and 13 food safety and hygiene offences, including failure to protect food from contamination that likely made it unfit for human consumption.

In December 2010, trading standards and environmental health conducted an inspection of the shop, the animals and farm premises.

A quantity of illegally slaughtered meat was seized and condemned by Daventry Magistrates' Court which ordered its destruction.

Officers also found the remains of a cow on a previous bonfire as well as animals without proper identification documents.

Councillor Ben Smith, county council cabinet member for environment, said: "This is a very serious matter; by not complying with regulations regarding cattle identification and failing to dispose of the remains of a dead animal in the proper way this farmer was risking public health and breaking the law."

Health officers have been working with Lawrence to ensure it doesn't happen again.

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TalkingPoint

This week's guest columnist is Cllr Mark Bullock, deputy leader of the Labour group at Northamptonshire County Council

Blowing the whistle on cheap deals

Most people who know me, know I am late for virtually everything.

As a councillor, there is always the excuse that the previous meeting or event over-ran which is why you are late for the current one.

That works unless somebody else was at that earlier meeting too.

But if you start late, you get even later and confession time . . . the most common reason for my starting late is not being able to find my keys.

I have tried all sorts of strategies to stop them hiding in the their favourite places but none seem to work for very long.

First up, I tried attaching something very large on the keyring to stop them going down the side of the sofa.

Alas, the keys soon found other places to hide, whilst my trouser pockets bulged and soon burst under pressure. Over time, I found leaving the keys in the same place every time the best strategy.

Now, that works fine until you come home laden with the shopping.

The keys trick their way into the kitchen, where there are so many fun places to hide starting with the cutlery drawer before trying out the fridge and waste bins. Then there are the times that us men know so well. You get out of the warm car into the cold and a call of nature is suddenly overwhelmingly urgent.

The keys never seem to tire of finding new hiding places in the bathroom!

The final nail in the 'same place key storage strategy' came when watching an episode of the Real Hustle and watching a hustler stealing keys and valuables with a variety of hooks and magnets attached to fishing rods poked through letterboxes.

So you can imagine my joy, when this year I unwrapped a Christmas present to discover a pack containing two sonic whistle key finders.

A first whistle and the whistler bursts into life to reveal its location. Surely those pesky keys had finally met their match.

Then, the whistler burst into life again. I had not whistled nor had I clapped.

And it carried on chirping its merry whistle every few minutes even when it was placed in solitary confinement in a silent cupboard.

So bravely, I took it back to the market stall where my friend had bought it.

The stall vendor rather succinctly asked me: "What did you expect for a £1? That whistler is the best local deal you will ever get. It's also the cheapest you'll find it anywhere in the country."

To which in all innocence, I replied: "Surely it should do what it says it does?"

He replied: "It does whistle when you whistle at it! It is not my problem if it whistles at other triggers!"

So, I was left to rue that a cheap local deal that promised much did not deliver any value at all.

Then I went home to read my papers on the Tory County Council budget. I could hardly believe the headlines.

The Tories are asking us to believe that they are offering a good local deal for Northamptonshire and the cheapest council tax in the country.

Well we in Labour know that, just like the cheap market stall, the Tories might be offering cheap council tax but they are also offering us a poor deal because the Tories are delivering poor services in return for our council tax.

So just like the market vendor and his dodgy stock, the Tories at County Hall need the order of the boot.

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£22k spree of card scam man

BY LAUREN DAVIS
lauren.davis@HPnorthants.co.uk

A LODGER who spent £22,000 on credit cards he took out in his landlord's name has been jailed.

James McGrath pleaded guilty to 14 counts of fraud after he ran up thousands of pounds on hotels and gambling.

He met his victim, Vincent Helwig, a 31-year-old plumber, at a kick-boxing club and proceeded to steal his identity.

After Mr Helwig had offered him a place to live, McGrath took the landlord's details from his post and embarked on a spending spree that included a Mazda, an Xbox 360, a Blackberry mobile phone and designer goods.

Northampton Crown Court heard that Mr Helwig was even driven around in the car, not knowing it was bought and insured in his name.

When confronted by the victim, McGrath admitted the fraud, saying that he owed £40,000 to a cocaine dealer. But Judge Richard Bray said that was not a mitigating factor.

Mr Helwig, who had a four-star credit rating before McGrath's scheme, has since had financial problems as a result.

Caroline Bray, prosecuting, said the victim felt "hurt and betrayed" by McGrath, who had two previous convictions for using stolen cheques.

Judge Bray said: "These offences are seriously aggravated by the fact that you committed them against a man who was kind enough to allow you into his lodgings."

He added that McGrath's crimes were "determined" and "quite sophisticated".

McGrath was sentenced to 30 months in prison and an extra two months for failing to attend a hearing, when he pretended that his girlfriend had gone into labour.

Club to support workers

A NEW job fair will take place in Northampton's Central Library in Abington Street tomorrow from 10am to 2pm.

It will try to get people back to work during these difficult economic times, by delivering job support and training.

The free fair, called Job Club Xtra, is designed for job seekers to meet with local companies to discuss vacancies, work experience, self-employment and volunteer placements.

MUST END SUNDAY 29TH JAN

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Boozy robber walks away empty-handed

A SCRUFFY offender who smelt of booze tried to rob a man.

Police are appealing for witnesses following the attempted robbery on Saturday between 10.45pm and 11.15pm.

The victim was walking along a dark narrow footpath between Gloucester Crescent and Pleydell Gardens in Northampton when he was confronted by a male who demanded money and his mobile phone.

A physical altercation then took place between the two.

The victim then ran off in the direction of the town centre.

The offender is described as a white male, 5ft 10ins to 5ft 11ins tall, 40 to 50 years of age, skinny build with big shoulders and was scruffy looking with stubble.

He was wearing a beanie hat and a black leather bomber-style jacket with buttons down the front.

He also smelt of alcohol.

In a separate case police have just released details of another attempted robbery that happened in the same area on Friday, January 6.

A teenager was threatened at knifepoint by a thief who demanded cash.

At around 3pm, a 19-year-old man was walking along the wide alleyway off Pleydell Gardens when he was approached from behind by the offender.

A struggle ensued and the offender pulled out a black knife and demanded cash and valuables from the man. At this point, a witness intervened and the offender ran off into Pleydell Gardens.

He is described as white, aged 20 to 25, around 6ft tall and of stocky build.

He had a tanned complexion and was wearing black tracksuit bottoms, a dark blue hoodie and had a black scarf covering his face.

Anyone with information on either incident is asked to contact Northamptonshire Police on 101.

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STILL HOPING: Harriet Mosedale

Harriet acts to fulfil her £80k wish

BY LAWRENCE JOHN

lawrence.john@HPnorthants.co.uk

A TEENAGER'S lifelong dream could end up broken if she cannot raise £80,000 to fund her course.

Harriet Mosedale, 18, from Northampton, won a place at the American Musical and Dramatic Academy in Los Angeles by coming through an audition which pitched her against 100,000 students all trying to get one of the 650 places.

Harriet, who is a student at Northampton College, now faces an anxious wait to see if she can start the course in June.

She will be trained in all aspects of musical theatre including dance, tap, ballet, jazz and acting.

If Harriet is able to complete the four year course it would give her the chance to audition for Broadway or West End shows.

Harriet said: "It means a lot to me as only a few get selected.

"Ever since I was a little girl this is something I have always wanted to do – it is my dream.

"Me and mum will be doing a number of things to raise the money but I really need sponsorship.

"Before I took the audition I had no idea how expensive it was.

"Even though I have a scholarship for £13,000 over four years I still have to find £80,000. If I can't go it would be upsetting, in fact horrible.

"Hopefully I will be able to go, I have got to believe."

Her mum Jacqueline will be doing a sponsored tandem skydive, even though she hates heights.

She said: "I will have to go down to Hinton Airfield to do the skydive.

"It is not something I want to do but I will get more sponsorship as my friends know how scared I am of heights.

"I am happy to do what is needed to help raise the money. This is her dream.

"It is something which she has always wanted to do.

"When she heard she had been accepted she was dancing around the lounge

"She has been performing for us since she was four years old by putting on shows.

"To make her dream of attending this school, we are identifying fundraising and are asking for sponsorship from the local community and from local businesses."

If you can help email Harriet.mosedale@hotmail.co.uk

Ladies only to get running

ENTRIES are now open for this year's Race For LIfe in Northampton which will raise money for Cancer Research UK.

The women-only event will take place in Abington Park on June 17 with the 10k at 10am and the 5k at 2pm.

More than 5,500 runners took part last year, raising £325,000.

You can enter at www.raceforlife.org

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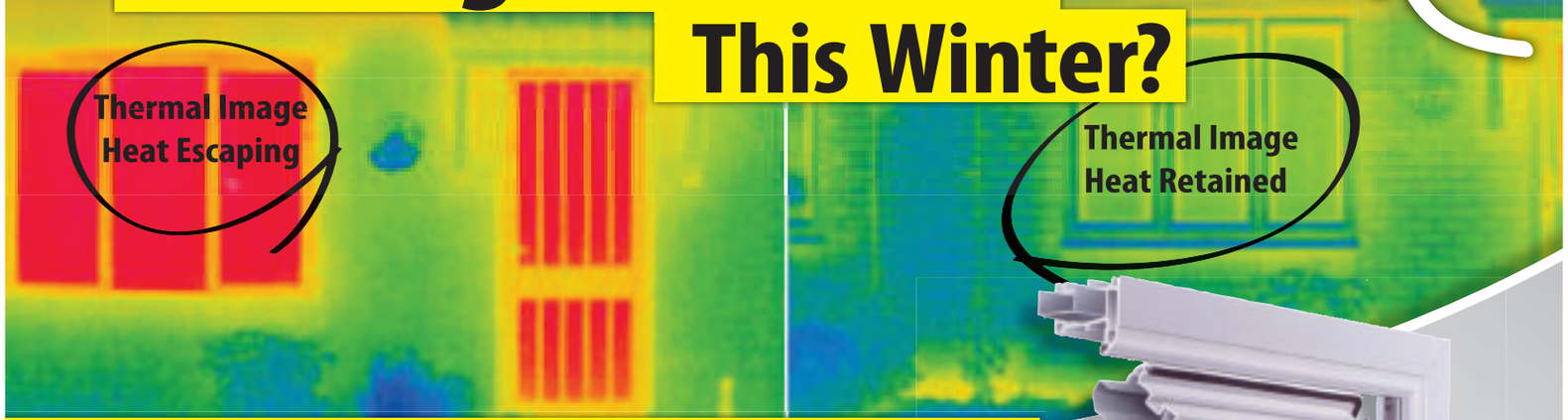

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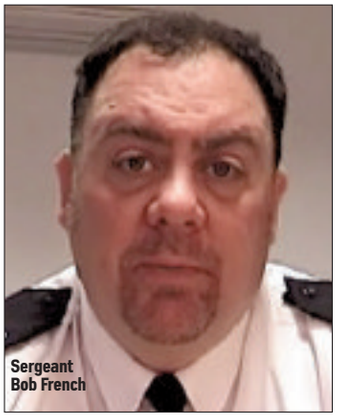
Sergeant Bob French

Putting brakes on car crimes

BY LAUREN DAVIS
lauren.davis@HPnorthants.co.uk

A CRACKDOWN on vehicle crime across the county was launched this week in a bid to reduce the number of road accidents and improve driving standards.

Northamptonshire Police are targeting the rising number of complaints about these offences as part of Operation Guardian.

The initiative will look at stopping vehicles, identifying suspicious activity, checking documentation and promoting road safety, with particular focus on the "Fatal Four".

These are the four key causes of collisions involving death or serious injury in the UK – driving under the influence of drink or drugs, using mobile phones, speeding and not wearing a seatbelt

Sergeant Bob French, involved in the project, said: "The aim of this operation is to prevent and deter offenders committing vehicle crime offences by providing high visibility patrols and undertaking intelligence-led crime detection measures.

"An element of this is also looking at enhancing public safety, in particular that of lone females and vulnerable people, particularly during Nightsafe events, by identifying legitimate Hackney and private hire drivers and vehicles and ensuring the safety of these vehicles on the counties roads."

Officers will be working in partnership with district, borough and county council licensing officers to conduct checks on the safety of private hire and Hackney vehicles and work vans to ensure driver standards and public safety.

The crackdown, which aims to "disrupt criminality", started on Monday and will run until March.

The Operation Guardian team will also focus on reducing incidents of violence and anti-social behaviour by directing patrols where most needed.

go to www.northampton-news-hp.co.uk

Cops' security warning for drivers

CRIME prevention officers have sent out 209 letters to motorists after their vehicles were identified as being vulnerable to theft.

Officers and police staff have been visiting vehicle crime hotspot locations in Northampton, identifying motors that are either insecure with windows or doors left open, or have items on display that would make that vehicle a target for crime.

The registration details of the vehicles were noted and the registered owners have been sent a letter informing them of this and advising them on how to protect their vehicles.

In urgent cases, owners have been contacted immediately. Officers have also been carrying out high visibility foot patrols to identify insecurities to properties and vehicles and distributing leaflets highlighting simple steps that can be taken regarding security.

Crime prevention manager Laura Major said: "A lot of vehicle crime can be prevented. Opportunist thieves will target vehicles, especially when items are left on display, because they know they will get something out of it.

"It only takes a few seconds to double check that the doors are locked, windows closed, and any items are removed or out of sight."

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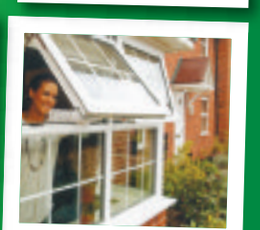

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SOLAR ELECRITICITY PANELS ON YOUR ROOF? IS THE RETURN ON INVESTMENT STILL TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE?

NOT IF YOU ACT BEFORE APRIL IT ISN'T!

With bank interest rates forecast to remain at historically low levels, it has become increasingly difficult for homeowners to receive a decent return on their savings. The problem remains that savers are being penalised in favour of borrowers, and that is likely to continue for some considerable time.

The Sunday Times, only recently, published a list of investments that do buck the trend, with investments that produce a good return even in times of punitively low interest rates. High on the list of excellent Return On Investments is Solar Electricity Panels.

There has been a deluge of publicity over the last few months regarding the Government's recent change of policy over the Feed In Tariff. For those unfamiliar with this scheme, the Government guarantees indexed linked payments for the next 25 years for each unit of electricity generated by the panels on your roof. That, together with savings on electricity bills, meant a Return On Investment that the Government considered to be too generous. As a result, they decided to lower the feed-in-tariff rate to make the subsidy more sustainable and spread the benefits to more homeowners.

WHAT LEVEL OF RETURN CAN YOU EXPECT?

So, is it now still an exciting investment? The short answer is a resounding YES. The actual Return On Investment is still a very healthy 10% to 15% in the majority of cases and sometimes even more.

Consider the following example:

A 4 kW Solar Panel System, which would normally consist of around 16 - 20 Solar Panels installed (dependent on output of panel) on your roof, would typically cost £10,375 incl VAT from T&K Solar.

The tax free Return On Investment in the first year, as a result of the Feed In Tariff and electricity savings, is forecast at 9%, but that is only the start. The Payback on the initial investment would be less than 9 years, but the best news is that over the 25 year period that the Government guarantees the indexed linked payments, you would make a total profit of over £40,000, giving a substantial average return on investment of almost 20%.

YOU WOULD MAKE A TOTAL PROFIT OF OVER £40,000

YOU NEED TO ACT BEFORE 1ST APRIL

There is, however, a need for homeowners to get in on the act quickly. As part of the Government's Feed In Tariff review, they have decided that to qualify for the Feed In Tariff from 1st April 2012, then homes will need to have an energy assessment rating of C" or above, and most homes do not currently reach this level. As a result, after April 2012, you may need to carry out other costly energy saving home improvements, such as insulation products or PVC-U double glazed windows and doors, before you would be eligible to apply for the Feed In Tariff and receive the high Returns.

GET THE FACTS FROM THE EXPERTS

T&K Solar PV, being one of the leading local installers of Solar Panels, discovered that homeowners generally still have more questions than answers. To help solve this problem, you now have the opportunity to get the facts for yourself, in a series of informative one hour Fact Finding Demonstrations from a panel of Renewable Energy experts, as well as seeing a working model of the complete system in action. You will be able to ask any questions you like, and you will hear answers to the most Frequently Asked Questions.

The Expert Panel conducting the Demonstrations include an independent Supply Chain Director, representing one of the world's leading Panel producers; a local Renewable Energy Expert and a Solar Electrical Design Engineer, and topics covered can include, among any others:

- Is this is a genuine investment and are the Government payments really guaranteed for 25 years?
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- Will this seriously reduce your carbon emissions?
- Will a Solar PV system increase the value of your home?
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- Why you must use a MCS registered installer, governed by an independent Regulatory body?
- Are all Solar Panels all the same as each other, and are some Panels better value for money than others?

The Fact Finding Demonstrations will take place at the T&K Exhibition Centre on Saturday 28 January 2012 at 12 noon and 2pm, and on Sunday 29 January at 11am and 1pm, and homeowners can reserve as many places as they wish. The Demonstrations are

completely free of charge, and there will be no heavy pressure selling and you are not under any obligation whatsoever.

To book your free place(s) at the Fact Finding Demonstrations, call T&K Solar on 0800 285 1992. But act quickly, as spaces are filling fast.

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Judge gives jail card to player for 'nasty attack'

BY LAUREN DAVIS
lauren.davis@HPnorthants.co.uk

A FRIENDLY football game ended in a broken eye socket for one player after a teammate punched him in the face.

Northampton Crown Court heard how Glenn Spence, 29, assaulted Chris Haddon when the victim sat down by the goal posts before half-time and refused to get up.

The pair were playing football at the Racecourse in Northampton in July last year and had only known each other for a couple of days, having met at a night shelter.

When Mr Haddon, 22, stopped playing Spence hit him, knocking him backwards.

The victim recalled being sick in an ambulance. He was taken to Northampton General Hospital where he was treated for severe bruising and swelling around the eyes and a fracture to the right eye socket.

Spence was arrested later that evening and when interviewed by police he said he had acted in "self-defence" because he thought Mr Haddon was going to hit him.

The defendant's 35 previous convictions, going back to 2000, were read out in court, including assaulting a police officer, criminal damage, robbery and possession of an offensive weapon.

Judge Richard Bray said: "It was a nasty attack."

Spence was jailed for 18 months after pleading guilty to assault.

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Team aim to cut alcohol patients

BY LAWRENCE JOHN
lawrence.john@HPnorthants.co.uk

A NEW alcohol treatment service is to be launched in the county.

Despite a reduction in finance, the Northamptonshire Partnership's Alcohol Harm Reduction Strategy aim to continue to reduce the number of booze specific hospital admissions.

The aim is to build upon the success of the current scheme to reduce admissions to hospital for alcohol harm and support patients more effectively.

NHS Northamptonshire has invested £1,150,000 over the last two years after the county was 'red flagged' for alcohol harm in 2009.

Professor Stephen Horsley

The rate of increase in alcohol related hospital admissions has reduced to four per cent (from 17 per cent between 2008/09 and 2009/10).

The national rate is eight per cent.

The team hope to reduce cases by providing more community based services, integrating health services across the county, offering community based alcohol treatment packages and additional resources to provide mental health triage assessments in A&E.

Director of Public Health for NHS Northamptonshire, Professor Stephen Horsley, said: "In 2010/11 there were 2,027 alcohol specific hospital admissions, costing the local NHS around £2.9m.

"Based on England average rates, if we do not do anything and the rate continues to rise, alcohol specific hospital admissions will cost the NHS in Northamptonshire an additional £1.4m by 2014/15."

Sentimental medallion stolen in raid

A MEDAL which has great sentimental value was stolen during a burglary in Moulton.

It happened at a home in Park View on Monday between 3pm and 6pm.

The offender/s kicked their way through the front door and conducted a search of the property.

Various items, including toiletries and clothes, were taken along with a 30-year-old Great Ormond Street medallion, made of silver metal on a red, white and blue bar. It has the name 'Amy' engraved on it.

Anyone with information, should call police on 101.

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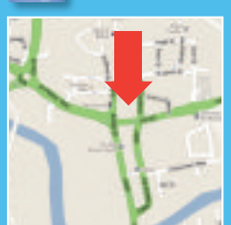

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An Hammond 1 Typewriter

Recently brought to Gilding's attention and discovered to have belonged to Lewis Caroll (Rev. Charles Lutwidge Dodgson), the author of *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*

Valued at £2,000 - £3,000

Auctioneers Gildings of Roman Way, Market Harborough, Leicestershire, have completed an exciting and highly successful 2011 when a total of almost 30,000 lots have come under the gavels of father-and-sons John, Mark and James Gilding.

Regular Fine Art and Antique & Collectors sales are held in Market Harborough, and in the more recently opened Leicester saleroom at 63, Morris Road, which features Victorian to Modern Furnishings & Collectables.

There was an undisputed auction highlight in summer 2011 – it created not only local, but also national and international drama – culminating in the sale of a brooch by the famous Victorian architect and designer William Burges for £36,580 (inclusive).

On the day the sale was filmed for television and there was widespread interest in the price achieved.

Interestingly, the silver brooch set with a central garnet and 4 turquoise first "came to light" as a result of television when it was highlighted by BBC Antiques Roadshow jewellery expert Geoffrey Munn as his "most wanted" jewel, if it even existed.

Mark Gilding explained: "Geoffrey Munn had included the design by Burges for the brooch in a book he had co-written 30 years earlier. At the point the programme was made, he did not know whether it had been made. But within hours of the programme being transmitted, I was contacted by a local woman who had a brooch matching his description at the bottom of her jewellery box.

"In fact, she did not like it and had been close to selling it for around £10 at a collectors fair. But all that changed dramatically when I was able to confirm it was indeed the rare, historic piece by William Burges.

"It was a wonderful outcome not only for her, but also for everyone interested in such an important piece. Geoffrey Munn described it as his 'Tutankhamun moment' it was such a thrill and I could understand how he felt.

"But, importantly, it illustrates just what is 'out there' and the experience could be repeated because so often items of all kinds, especially probably smaller pieces, can be in families for years, provenance largely unknown, just tucked into a drawer, put at the back of a cupboard or wardrobe, and forgotten.

"This is a hugely exciting part of my job really to be able to help and advise someone who finds something that has been overlooked for years, regarded of little or no significance, yet has been kept because of a family feeling it is special in some way.

"I think many people do not realise, or know, that we are here to help them with identification and valuation, not just to sell. There is a great deal of intensive behind-the-scenes research that can often go on before a lot appears in a saleroom. It is painstaking, time-consuming, but extremely rewarding.

"No-one should be reluctant to ask what we think – it is a free, friendly service – and it could lead to an important find."

Oriental items of all kinds, including ceramics, have been highly sought after in the past 12 months, so have gold and silver pieces, and it is a trend that looks set to continue in 2012, along with keen interest in unusual colleictors items, always likely to create demand.

The range is enormous coming through the salerooms – from the now world famous Burges brooch to the Washington Layfayette gold button, linking the 2 great personalities of the foundation of the United States of America – sold at Gildings in October - and the vast collection of old irons made by a Leicestershire couple as a lifetime's hobby. Then there are classic pieces of porcelain and pottery, first edition books, paintings of all kinds, important furniture and other jewellery – necklaces, rings, brooches, bracelets and watches – as well as other magnificent timepieces ancient and more modern.

Mark Gilding added: "Just pop in to see us and seek our opinion at either of our salerooms. We are always willing to help. There is no charge or obligation.

"It is important too to realise that viewing sessions of up to 500 different lots or more are open to anyone whatever their particular interest. So whether you are building up a unique collection, or just want to track down some good value furnishings, pop in to a viewing, decide if it is something you like and if you want to go ahead, then you can makeup your own mind on what it is worth to you, then bid in the saleroom, on the internet, or by telephone on the day and it could become part of your own family future."

Gildings can be contacted by telephone on 01858 410414.

YOUR DREAMS

Everyone has dreams and aspirations. Some are of the far fetched fantasy variety, which usually involve an unlimited supply of cash, countless mansions and luxurious sports cars.

Funding the extravagant lifestyle in most people's imaginations is a bumper Lottery payout. Do you play the Lottery? If not, why not have a little flutter once in a while to enhance the possibility of landing a multi-million pay out? Odds are slim but you've got to be in it to win it.

Only a fortunate few will scoop the jackpot but that doesn't have to be the end of dreams. Dreams can be aspirational.

Why shouldn't you have things you dream of? It might just be that you are not able to have everything that you want exactly when you want it.

How do you go about chasing your dreams? Planning is everything. Be realistic and set yourself goals and targets (most tend to relate to saving money) en route to fulfilling the ultimate dream.

The obvious advice is to cut out life's little luxuries. Instead of popping in to Starbucks for that skinny vanilla latte once a week why not put that money to one side? If you kick your coffee shop habit you could save yourself money each month which would go nicely towards that holiday fund.

Another way to save the pennies (and the pounds will save themselves) is to take a shopping list every where you go. If you stick to the list it will cut any impulse buying and soon you will be able to live the dream by wandering around in a robe being pampered and drinking champagne - even if it is only for the one day at a five-star spa retreat.

If your dream is to be a Formula One superstar why not try the next best thing? Race tracks up and down the country offer once in a lifetime opportunities to experience the thrills and spills of motor racing in specially designed race cars.

Although it will not be the same as Lewis Hamilton taking his McLaren for a spin, it is the closest the average Joe can get to the Formula One lifestyle.
Dreams can come true...

YOUR CAREER

The job market is a daunting place at the moment. On top of those who are unemployed, you now have the New Year Resolutionists who are looking for a career change, so finding for your next role can seem like an uphill battle.

But never fear - finding your perfect job, or even just making it onto the next rung in the ladder, can be achieved with a little bit of elbow grease combined with a lot of salesmanship.

There are loads of recruitment agencies out there, some specialist and some not, so print off dozens of CVs and try to personally visit each one. Once you are on their system they will start matching your skills, but don't leave it to fate.

Keep harassing the recruitment agents, make sure they know your face and remember your name so you are the first person they think of when they have a new position to fill.

But companies always appreciate the personal approach. If you want a specialist job and have some companies in mind, go and knock on their door. Try and find out who the person in charge is and hand your CV to them face-to-face. Or, if it has to be left with the front desk, find an e-mail address or telephone number for the right person and ask the next day whether they got your resume. This will get you noticed, and even if they don't have a job available, yours will be the first name on the list when they do. And when it comes to the all-important interview, don't stress.

Dress for success. Gents, a black or dark blue suit with a plain white shirt and red tie projects confidence, professionalism and an 'I know what I'm doing' attitude. Ladies, the same colour trouser suit with a plain white blouse will do the trick.

Always introduce yourself with a firm hand shake, and make sure to do your research on the company first.
Don't just read the website, have a look at customer reviews, ensure you know what products and services the company offers. This is so you can not only ask lots of questions, which is a must-do, but also suggest improvements and changes you would make when you start in the role.And above all, always smile.

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YOUR HOBBIES

If you want to inject some excitement into your life, taking up a new hobby is a great way to get inspired.

Hobbies are excellent ways to make you feel fulfilled and they can also be a brilliant way of making friends and coming into contact with people who have similar interests.

If an obvious hobby doesn't spring to mind, sit down and think about what interests you and how you could get more involved. For example, love watching Wimbledon on TV?

Join a local tennis league. Love reading? Join a book club. Love music? Buy some decks and learn how to mix.

If you've ever wanted to try rock-climbing, mountain biking, skiing or painting, it's never too late.

There are now more opportunities than ever before to broaden your knowledge, learn a new skill and just have a plain good time doing something for yourself. It could even help you get a better job.

It could be knitting or plastering, playing chess or learning new IT skills.

It could be making that effort to learn a language so that next time you go on holiday to France or Spain you can do more than just grunt, shout loudly in English or wave your arms about when you want to know the way to the station.

It could be the decision to take up badminton, ball-room dancing or playing the banjo.

Learning a new skill brings with it a self-confidence and self-reliance that comes with mastering a challenge.

Whatever you decide to do - once you've made up your mind just go for it.

You will feel such a sense of achievement and you can give yourself a well-deserved pat on the back.

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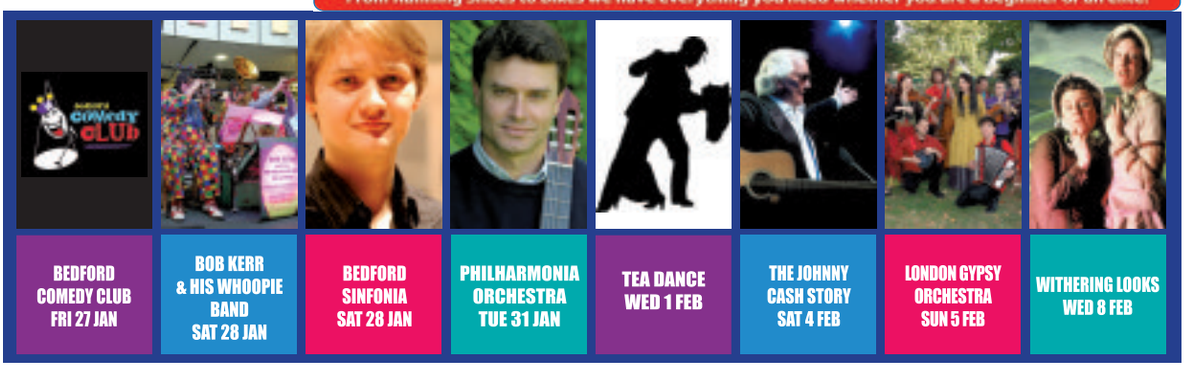

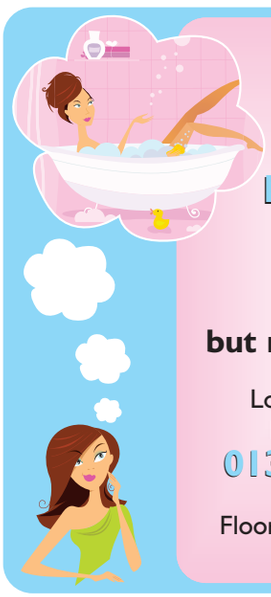

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YOUR HOME

They say the home is where the heart is, and it's true.

Houses have atmospheres. They radiate the mood and character of the family who lives there. You can tell as soon as you enter someone's house if it feels warm, open and inviting; or stiff and uncomfortable.

It doesn't matter how perfect your furniture is or how clean you keep your carpet. Furnishings and material possessions can never make up for an inviting home.

So, here are five ways that you can turn your house into that warm and loving home you desire.

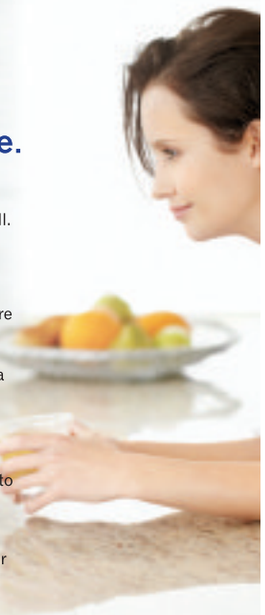
1. Maintain an open door policy: Make your house inviting to family and friends by letting them know they are welcome. Encourage them to stop byto say hello or to visit you for a few minutes. Let them know you value them. A closed home is a lonely home.

2. Fill your home with aromas: Scented candles are a great way to create a calm atmosphere and a warmness, especially in the colder months. During the day however, try flowers - they brighten the house and leave a fresh, lively smell.

3. Hold a consistent family dinner hour: Make sure your family sits together at the table for dinner each night (or at least regularly) so that you can share together, laugh and bond. This will give the children an opportunity to share - which, in the age of electronics and social networking sites, is often underrated.

4. Keep your home tidy but let it be lived in: It's a great thing to be organised and to take pride in your home. In fact, your family will benefit from these traits. But it's just as important to not let that organisation run your life. If a home is so immaculate that everyone is afraid to relax, what good does that do anyone? It is important to try and maintain that balance.

5. Slow down: Fast-paced lives are the biggest thieves of family time these days. Friends are important but you need to make your family your priority not your social activities. Make time to create memories together in your home.



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YOUR SOCIAL LIFE

Life is like a coin. You can spend it any way you wish, but you only spend it once.

So when you consider you spend more time at work than anywhere else, it's important to make the most of the your free time.

It's safe to say that one of the most important aspects of our lives is our relationships with other people, be it family of friends. Unfortunately, meeting people and having an active social life is something which many people struggle with, but it can be completely within your control. One of the main reasons people struggle to have the social life that they desire is because the fear of rejection is constantly on their mind.

But here's the thing, everyone is insecure. Yes, some are more insecure than others but everyone has their faults. Don't waste a second of your time thinking you're not good enough. When you focus your attention on what you lack, you can't see what you currently have. Realise that no-one is perfect. No-one has everything figured out. Remember not everyone is going to like you, and accept it. Embrace your differences and rise above the fear of rejection.

Focus on quality not quantity. Would you rather have a large circle of acquaintances or a small group of close friends? The latter is surely the better option. Many people believe having a ton of friends will lead to an amazing social life, which isn't always true. While it's certainly possible to have a large group of friends who you share a wonderful connection with, true intimacy generally occurs in small numbers. And remember, the key to long lasting friendships is care and trust. It's important to make a conscious effort to be as understanding and compassionate as possible. Genuinely care about the connection you're creating. When someone needs a friend, be there to listen. When someone needs advice, be there to give it to them. When you truly care about someone you'll often find that person will soon begin to care about you.

And while you need to keep your own interests in mind, you must appreciate that not everyone will have the same opinions as yourself.

This applies to many different situations - to political and religious views, to how you enjoy spending your spare time. And it is these differences in people which makes relationships interesting and a form of learning curve.

Try to empathise with those around you and celebrate your differences, rather than shying away from anything different to what you know. You can teach others and they can teach you. Often one of the greatest skills you can learn from relationships is the ability to see things from different viewpoints.

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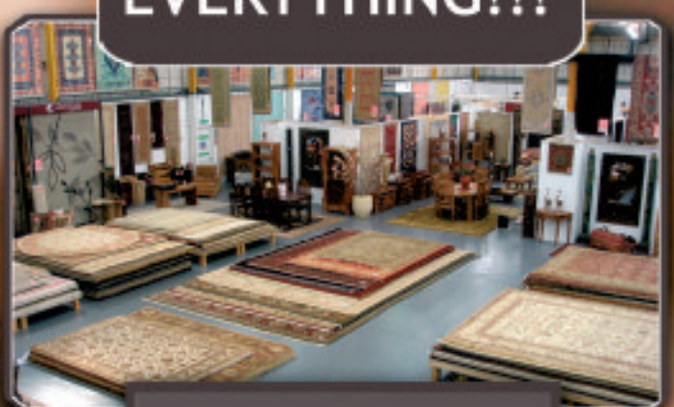

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FOLLOWING on from its acclaimed Made in Northampton season last year, Royal & Derngate starts the new year with an eagerly-awaited collaboration of artists from the forefront of British theatre.

In a co-production with top physical theatre company Spymonkey and adapted and directed by Kneehigh's Emma Rice, Royal & Derngate presents the brilliantly funny new show Oedipussy which launches in Northampton before heading off on a national tour.

Hot on the heels of their acclaimed Moby Dick, Spymonkey's hilarious physical comedy combines with the playful storytelling of Rice and writing partner Carl Grose to create an outrageous no-holds-barred subversion of the quintessential Greek tragedy.

The result is a tale of forbidden lust, accidental incest, violent murder and the ultimate dysfunctional family. Inspired by Barbarella and a little bit of Bond, Spymonkey turn their unique brand of theatrical invention to this greatest of tragic tales, bringing it to life in typically outrageous fashion.

Due to scenes of nudity, the show is recommended for ages 14 and above.

Tickets are £13 to £28. To find out more or to book, call 01604 624811.

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What's On 24/7

Midge is to take a 'Walk in the Park'

ENTERTAINMENT

MUSIC icon Midge Ure, solo artist and the front man of top 80s band Ultravox, has been announced as the headline act of an annual event.

He will be in Northampton for June's Walk In the Park Festival which is held at Wootton Rec.

Ure, who recently reformed Ultravox, continues to play packed houses all over the country and his appearance in the town will be part of his 'Here and Now' tour.

He will be entertaining the crowds as part of the festival's Big Family Night Out on Friday, June 29.

Councillor Brandon Eldred, chairman of the event's organising committee, said: "It's a fantastic coup to attract such a big name to our event. When I was making the first enquiries about a headline act, Midge was mentioned to me, and I thought 'wow, that would be great'.

"By chance, a friend of mine had seen him live only recently and said he was sensational and had the whole venue rocking.

"I just had to pursue it and I'm absolutely thrilled to bits he's going to be coming to entertain local people here in Northampton at Walk In The Park."

He added: "We're also lining up some high profile support acts, plus giving the opportunity for some of our top local bands to be part of our big Family Night."

Last year's event was headlined by The Real Thing, S-Club and the X Factor's Diva Fever, with more than 5,000 attending on the Friday and 10,000 the following day.

Tickets for Friday are £15 for adults and £6 for children.

Admission on Saturday, which will run from 11am to 7pm, is free. Visit www.walkintheparkfestival.co.uk

Herald&Post Briefs

OFF TO THE WOODS FOR A PANTO

COLD Ashby Millennium Players will perform their pantomime, Robin Hood and Babes in the Wood, next month.

It can be seen from Friday, February 17 to Sunday, February 19 at Cold Ashby Memorial Hall in Main Street, Cold Ashby.

Performances are at 7pm on the Friday and Saturday and at 3pm on the Sunday.

The cast is made up of local talent of all ages.

Admission is £7 for adults, £6 for OAPs and £3 for children.

There will be a raffle at each show. To book, call 01604 740528.

GET MESSY FOR NIGHT OF MUSIC

A MUSIC event is aiming to showcase great talent, while raising funds for street-based youth work.

Messy Music has been organised by Community Court Yard and takes place tomorrow at the Picturedrome in Northampton, from 8pm to midnight.

A host of acts are taking part.

Tickets cost £5. Contact 07925730772

DANCERS SHOWCASE THEIR SKILLS

STUDENT dancers will be showing off the skills they have learnt from working with a leading artistic director.

The University of Northampton's Playgrounds Dance Company was joined by Lorraine Smith, artistic director of Silversmith Dance Theatre, for an intensive round of creative workshops.

The final product will be performed on February 21, as part of a double bill with Silversmith Dance Theatre, at the university's Avenue Campus.

Under the artistic direction of Matthew Gough, Playgrounds Dance Company has worked with a host of choreographers.

The annual 'Playgrounds Dance Festival' takes place in March.

For more information visit Mr Gough's blog at www.quodlibet.tumblr.com

www.jobsnow.co.uk

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Breakfast club – with Heart FM's Stuart and Natalie

THE line-up of judges has been announced for the new series of Britain's Got Talent on ITV.

Joining Simon Cowell will be David Walliams, Amanda Holden and Alesha Dixon who joins from Strictly Come Dancing.

Once again Simon revealed that he is looking for another fantastic dog act. He told us: "I want to find a dog that does magic tricks and who can travel into space.

"Everyone used to laugh at me when I said the next big star is going to be a dog and along came Uggie, but he's 12, which in human years is nearly 80, so I need to find a replacement." So if you have a talented pooch you need to enter.

So Alesha was the surprise announce-ment having left the BBC and Strictly for the new show and told us: "I'm gonna be me, I can't put on an act, I can't pretend to be something I'm not." Watch this space.

And hot on the heels of Michael McIntyre, Walliams brings the comedic element to the panel.

He said: "I'm really excited and looking forward to all the nutty acts, the ones that defy a genre or description, I just hope I don't end up speechless." We think he'll definitely pick up some ideas for his next comedy show with Matt Lucas . . .

Finally, it looks like Gary Barlow will be too busy to re-join the X Factor panel later in the year, as it's rumoured he will be busy promoting a new Take That album and fingers crossed we get another chance to see the boys live.

What we are sure about, is that the band will be back to a foursome, with Robbie due to release a new solo album at some stage this year.

See stunning town scenes in paint

ART

SAM WADSWORTH
Northampton Museum and Art Gallery
Until February 21

SEVEN paintings by celebrated artist Sam Wadsworth, including ones of Northampton landmarks, are now on display.

Although perhaps better known for his prize-winning portraiture, the works on display at Northampton Museum and Art Gallery are of landscapes and include captivating paintings of Abington Park, the Racecourse and Northampton's Lift Tower at sunset.

The artist has been voted Young Entrepreneur of the Year and won many prizes for his paintings, which include portraits of the CEO of a large London advertising agency, a prominent UK actor, the MD of a New York-based investment firm and the head of Northampton School for Boys where he taught from 2004 until 2007.

All seven paintings on display are for sale and there are also a selection of limited edition prints and cards.

The works will be showing at the museum until February 21.

Opening times are Tuesday to Saturday 10am to 5pm and Sunday 2pm to 5pm. Admission is free.

Students speak up for TV show

TELEVISION

LEARNERS from The University of Northampton were in fine voice when they spoke up for a new television show.

The BA Acting students voice characters in the two-part BBC dramatisation of Sebastian Faulks' First World War novel Birdsong which premiered at the weekend.

The second part will be shown on Sunday.

Eddie Redmayne (My Week With Marilyn, Richard II) and Clemence Poesy (28 days Later, Harry Potter) star as passionate young lovers brought together by love and torn apart by war.

Working Title, the independent production company commissioned to make the drama, approached the university last year for help because although the story is about British soldiers, filming took place on the continent and voices in many of the crowd scenes were not British.

The students were delighted to help and their work included improvising and creating the 'soundscape' in crowd scenes of young British soldiers throughout the programme.

Birdsong was adapted by Bafta award-winning Abi Morgan and spans the decade of the First World War.

Students and staff from BA Acting alongside the sound designers

It tells the story of Stephen Wraysford, a young Englishman who, in 1910, arrives in Amiens, Northern France, to stay with the Azaire family and falls desperately in love with Isabelle.

Ian Wilkinson, of Working Title, said: "A lot of the material we recorded at the university has been used and the director was very happy with the results.

"Over the two episodes you should be listening out for any scenes that involve the British soldiers.

"In episode one it is primarily the scenes in the trenches, but in episode two we have used far more for the soldiers milling around, street scenes in Amiens, the bar in Amiens, wounded soldiers, and the Battle of the Somme."

Ashley Cook, a year one acting student, said: "The experience was fantastic because even though we are still training we have had the opportunity to work on something that is clearly a big production."

Swingles are back to get you singing

MUSIC

THE SWINGLE SINGERS IN CONCERT SUPPORTED BY NSB JAZZ VOCAL GROUP
Cripps Hall Theatre, Northampton School for Boys
Sunday at 7.30pm

THIS acappella group make a return visit to the town following their successful visit in 2010.

There will be music to suit all tastes.

From 2pm to 3pm there will also be a community workshop for anyone interested in singing.

Led by the Swingles, two songs will be worked on to be performed at 7pm as a prelude to the concert.

Places must be pre-booked. It is £18 or £13 concessions which includes a concert ticket and copies of all music.

Concert only tickets are £12 or £8 concessions. To book call 01604 258666.

Cross these numbers off your Beacon Bingo ticket for your chance to win a Cobblers season ticket

Ipswich	9th Aug	39, 53
Aldershot	13th Aug	1
Bristol Rovers	16th Aug	64
Cheltenham Town	20th Aug	38, 50
Huddersfield Town	30th Aug	41
Southend Utd	3rd Sept	60, 65
AFC Wimbledon	13th Sept	17, 73, 77
Macclesfield Town	17th Sept	44
Dagenham & Redbridge	24th Sept	16, 59
Barnet	1st Oct	51, 89
Hereford Utd	25th Oct	63
Rotherham Utd	29th Oct	23
Gillingham	5th Nov	35, 54, 60
Shrewsbury Town	19th Nov	48, 85
Plymouth Argyle	26th Nov	90
Crewe Alexandra	10th Nov	16
Burton Albion	26th Dec	1, 12
Swindon Town	31st Dec	22
Shrewsbury Town	2nd Jan	22
Morecambe	7th Jan	21, 52
Southend	14th Jan	10, 43
Barnet	21st Jan	8

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Countrywide

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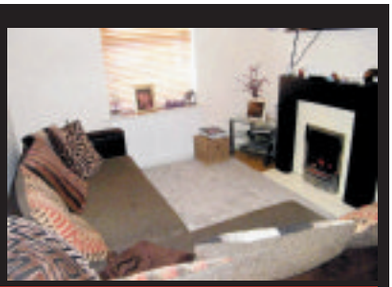
northampton@bairstoweves.co.uk

Northampton

O.I.E.O £60,000

- No upper chain
- Three Bedroom
- End of Terrace
- Ideal investment
- Kitchen/Diner
- Front & rear Gardens

Northampton



£132,500

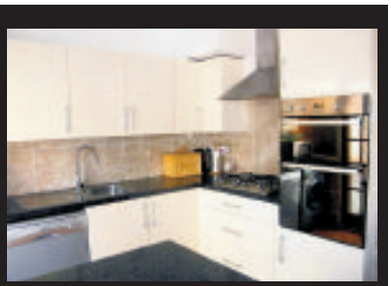
- Two Bedroom
- Mid Terrace
- Lounge/Diner
- Family Bathroom
- Cellar
- Court Yard Garden

Abington

O.I.E.O £170,000

- Three Bedrooms
- Mid Terrace
- Double Bay Fronted
- Gas Central Heating
- Cellar
- Dining Room

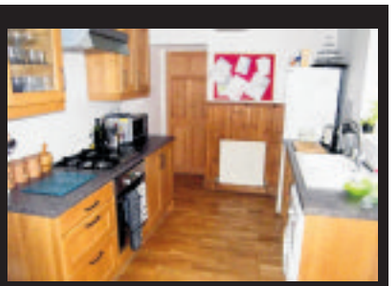
Northampton



£140,000

- Three Bed Mid-terrace
- No upper chain
- Garage to the rear
- Conservatory
- Gas central heating
- Close to Town Centre

Northampton



£135,000

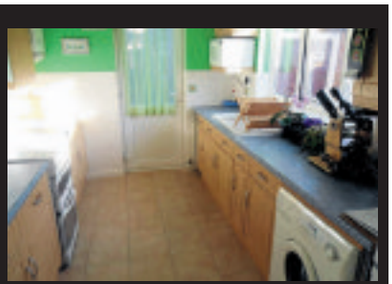
- Three Bedroom Mid Terrace
- No Upper Chain
- Lounge/Diner
- Downstairs Bathroom
- Gas Central Heating
- Bay Fronted

Northampton

O.I.E.O £150,000

- Three Bedroom
- Semi-detached
- No Upper Chain
- Lounge/Diner
- Close Proximity To Town Centre
- Front and Rear Gardens

Northampton



£150,000

- Four Bedrooms
- En-suite to Master
- Detached Property
- Double Garage
- Downstairs WC
- Front and Rear Gardens

Northampton

£270,000

- Investment opportunity
- Sold as one unit
- All have fitted kitchens
- Three storey property
- Currently three self contained apartments
- Close to Northampton hospital and town centre

Northampton

£75,000

- Three bedrooms
- No upper chain
- Mid terrace
- Ideal for first time buyer
- Downstairs cloakroom
- Front and rear gardens

St James

O.I.E.O £70,000

- Well Presented Two Bedroom
- First Floor Apartment
- Allocated Parking
- Close To Town Centre Amenities And Train Station
- Re-Fitted Kitchen and Bathroom
- No Upper Chain

Danefield

14 Ironstone Lane Northampton NN4 8TR. We are acting for the mortgagees and have received an offer of £130,000 on the above property. Any interested parties must submit any higher offers in writing to the selling agent before an exchange of contracts takes place.Bairstow Eves, 4 Bridge Street, Northampton NN1 1NW.

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The Property Ombudsman OFT

Bairstow eves

Countrywide

Northampton Sales & Lettings Office 01604 624033

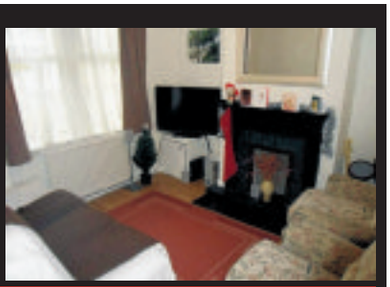
northampton@bairstoweves.co.uk

Northampton

£92,500

- Three Bedroom
- 50% Shared Ownership
- Semi-detached Property
- Double Glazing
- Gas to Radiator Heating
- Off Road Parking

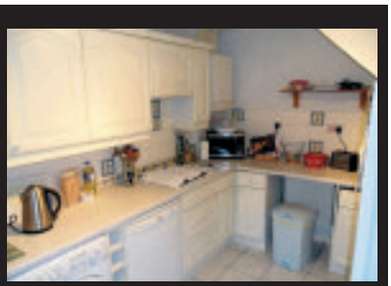
Northampton



£112,995

- Two bedroom
- Mid terrace
- Gas central heating
- Double glazing where specified
- Re-fitted bathroom
- Ideal for first time buyer

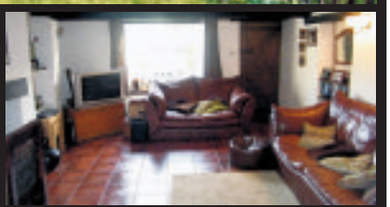
Northampton



£150,000

- Three Bedroom Detached Family Home
- Well Presented Throughout
- Refitted Bathroom
- Ensuite to Master
- Off Road Parking
- Private Outlook to Rear

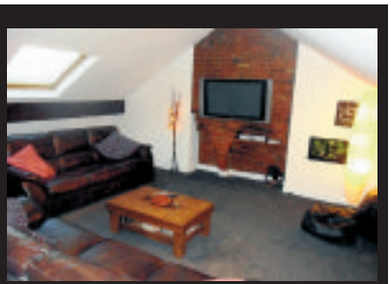
Ashton



£184,995

- Two Bedroom
- Character Stone Village Cottage
- Gas to Radiator Heating,
- Beamed Ceilings
- Front and Rear Gardens
- Off Road Parking

Northampton



£150,000

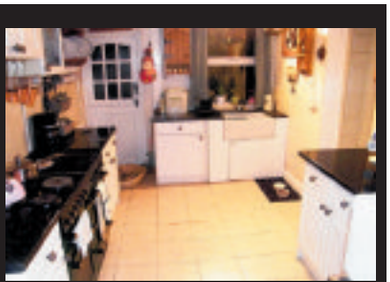
- First Floor Flat
- Overlooking The Racecourse
- Two Double Bedrooms
- Kitchen/Diner
- Allocated Garden Space
- Garage

Northampton

£140,000

- No Upper Chain
- Bay-fronted
- Off Road Parking
- Downstairs Cloakroom
- Re-fitted Bathroom
- Well Presented

Little Billing



£150,000

- Three Bedroom
- Mid Terrace
- Two Outside Barns
- Lounge/Diner
- Open Fire Place
- Garden

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Bairstow eves

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Kingsthorpe

£107,500

- Two Bedroom Home
- No Upper Chain
- Double Glazing
- Gas to Radiator Heating
- Conservatory
- Re-fitted Kitchen/Breakfast room

Kingsthorpe

£180,000

- Charming Character Cottage
- Heart of Kingsthorpe Village
- Views over Village Green and Church
- Potentially Four Bedrooms
- Early Viewing Essential
- Close To Local Amenities

Kingsthorpe

£150,000

- Three/Four Bedroom Townhouse
- Seperate Reception Rooms
- Wood Burning Stove
- Fitted Kitchen
- Rear Garden Measuring approx 52ft in Length
- Viewing is Essential

Kingsthorpe

£190,000

- Four Bedroom Detached Property
- Heavily Extended
- Three Reception Rooms
- Downstairs Cloakroom
- Single Garage
- Viewing Essential

Moulton

£450,000

- Detached Village Property
- Four Bedrooms
- Three Ensuites
- Cloakroom
- Annex
- Front & Rear Garden

Kingsthorpe

£155,000

- Three Double Bedrooms
- No Upper Chain
- 33Ft Lounge/Diner
- Conservatory
- Block Paved Off Road Parking
- Front and Rear Gardens

Kingsthorpe

£125,000

- Two Bedrooms
- Terraced House
- Refitted Kitchen
- Quiet Location
- Front and Back Gardens
- Two Allocated Parking Spaces

Moulton

£170,000

- Four Bedroom Semi-detached
- Popular Village Location
- Large Kitchen/Diner
- Four Piece Fitted Bathroom Suite
- Low Maintenance Front and Rear Gardens
- Single Garage

Boothville

£165,000

- Two/Three Bedrooms
- Lounge
- Kitchen/Dining Room
- Wet Room
- Front & Rear Gardens

Kingsthorpe Hollow

O.I.E.O £115,000

- No Upper Chain
- Refitted Kitchen
- Good Size Garden
- Gas to Radiator Heating
- Double Glazing

Moulton

O.I.E.O £228,500

- Charming Four Bedroom Detached
- Popular Village location
- Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating
- Single Garage
- Utility

Kingsthorpe

£85,000

- One bedroom First Floor Apartment
- Heart of Kingsthorpe village
- Allocated Parking
- No Upper Chain
- Early viewing essential

Kingsthorpe

£125,000

- Two bedroom property
- Lounge
- Kitchen/diner
- Conservatory
- Front and rear garden
- Garage

Kingsthorpe

OIEO £130,000

- Currently Undergoing Refurbishment Programme to Include
- Refitted Bathroom
- Refitted Kitchen Suite
- Three Double Bedrooms
- Gardens to the Front and Rear

Booth Rise

O.I.E.O £275,000

- Extended Five Bedroom Detached Home
- Generous Rear Garden
- Versatile Accommodation Throughout
- Large Fitted Kitchen/Breakfast Room
- Single Garage
- Generous Off Road Parking

Public Notice

£185,000

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Duston

£120,000

- High Ceiling Apartment With Large Windows
- Allocated Parking
- Excellent Size Rooms
- Ground Floor
- Fantastic Oppitunity For All Purchasers

Duston

£135,000

- Two Bedroom Semi-detached Bungalow
- Extended
- Lounge
- Dining Room
- Garage and Off Road Parking
- No Upper Chain

Duston

£235,000

- Three Large Bedrooms
- Garage & Off Road Parking
- South Facing Garden
- Great Location
- Cellar

St Crispins

£210,000

- Four Bedroom
- Three Storey Townhouse
- No Upper Chain
- Charming & Versatile Accommodation
- Fitted Kitchen/Breakfast Room
- Single Garage

Duston

£210,000

- Three Bedroom Semi-detached
- En-suite to Master
- Swimming Pool
- Work Sheds
- Open Kitchen and Dining Room
- Utility

Duston

£225,000

- Four Bedroom Detached Home
- Conservatory
- Utility
- Two Reception Rooms
- En-suite to Master
- Garage and Off Road Parking

Duston

£107,500

- Three Bedrooms
- Mid-terrace
- Open Lounge/Diner
- Utility Room
- Front and Rear Gardens
- Double Glazing

Duston

£330,000

- Four Bedroom Detached Family Home
- Double Garage
- Large Kitchen/Family Room
- Two Ensuite Bathroom
- Open Views to Front and Side

Bugbrooke

£210,000

- Three Bedroom Detached
- Utility Room
- Conservatory
- Downstairs WC
- Garage
- Off Road Parking

Duston

£165,000

- Three Bedroom Semi Detached
- Corner plot
- Modernised By the Current Owners
- Garage
- Off Road Parking
- Open Lounge/Diner

Duston

£289,995

- Five Bedroom Detached
- Two Storey Extension
- Kitchen/Breakfast room
- Ensuite
- Dining Room
- Viewing is Essential

St James

O.I.E.O £130,000

- A Modern Three Bedroom Property
- No Upper Chain
- Lounge/Diner
- Gas Central Heating
- Double Glazing (Where specified)
- Popular Location

Arena Gate

£200,000

- Three Bedroom Detached
- Kitchen/Diner
- En-suite To Master
- Downstairs Cloakroom
- Off Road Parking & Garage
- Viewing Is a Must

Upton

£280,000

- Detached Three Storey Property
- Four Bedrooms
- Sought after Location
- Two Ensuite and Family Bathroom
- Allocated Parking for Two Cars
- Enclosed Rear Garden

Duston

£275,000

- Four Bedrooms Detached
- Utility & Downstairs Cloak
- Double Garage
- Gas Central Heating
- Double Glazing
- Off Road Parking

Upton

Offers Over £180,000

- Three Bedroom Detached
- Popular Location
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MK Lettings goes from strength to strength in Northampton

MK Lettings extensive portfolio of properties covers Northants, Beds and Bucks.

The company is solely managed by the Directors, Khal Ali and Alison Dukes.

MK Lettings advertise on all the leading internet sites such as Rightmove and The Digital Property Group which includes Primelocation and Find a Property, these sites alert potential tenants to new properties to let.

Khal explained that “over the past five years the letting market has dramatically increased and therefore this is an ideal time for landlords to maximize the earnings potential of their property”

Tailored to your specific needs MK Lettings offers a comprehensive range of services covering all aspects within the property management industry, from tenant find to fully managed for a peace of mind, stress free service.

Khal added “We have a professional, friendly team of local tradesman dedicated to carry out all maintenance needs from gas safety and domestic energy assessment to full refurbishment, with no hidden costs”.

Alison commented that “With over 30 years of experience and a wealth of knowledge we offer a service second to none. Our staff are committed to provide an excellent level of service that you would expect from your letting agent. Alison continued “Whether you are letting a single property or have a large portfolio we have the expertise”

Khal and Alison both agreed that to maximize the potential of your property portfolio call MK Lettings on Northampton (01604) 269382 to arrange a no obligation property appraisal, a member of the MK Lettings team will be available to take your call.

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24seven MOTORING

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Suzuki Swift Sport hits road

THE all-new Suzuki Swift Sport has just gone on sale, priced at £13,499.

This new model, which hit storerooms on January 16, was recently awarded a 'Best Buy' accolade at the prestigious 2012 What Car? Magazine awards.

The new performance flagship of the Swift model range was comprehensively judged by the editorial team and the final conclusion resulted in it receiving the 'Best Buy Hot Hatch' for less than £15,000, toppling a close competitor's hold in this category for the first time since 2010.

The £13,499 model offers a high standard equipment specification which includes auto air conditioning, cruise control, wireless connectivity and USB port, rear privacy glass. 17 inch alloy wheels as well as metallic paint finish.

HID Projector headlamps for low and high beam are also fitted as standard – a feature often listed as a cost option on much more expensive cars.

Chas Hallet, What Car? editor in chief, said: "The all new Suzuki Swift Sport is a brilliant junior hot hatch which is at home on all kinds of roads thanks to its strong grip, tight body control and accurate steering.

"Priced at £13,499 and equipped with luxury specification it's a great hot hatch that is perfect for young drivers."

Cost of ownership is also lower than with the previous Sport model as emissions and fuel consumption have improved by around ten per cent and insurance classification has gone down by four groups from 23 to 19 thanks to extensive use of high-tensile steel and computerised structural analysis which keeps the body light while promoting safety.

Included as standard is ESP, seven airbags (including curtain and a driver's knee airbag), and body pillars incorporating shock-absorbing materials that soften any contact with occupants' heads.

Driver enjoyment has evolved even further than the previous model too with greater toe and camber rigidity for the rear axle beam and larger rear wheel bearings to enhance stability at the rear under hard cornering.

Increased spring rates for the front and rear coil springs and the addition of rebound springs for the front suspension struts significantly contribute to stability by providing greater roll stiffness.

The new Swift Sport is available in five metallic/pearlescent colours: Silky Silver, Kashmir Blue, Cosmic Black Pearl, Cool White and Ablaze Red.

In line with other models in the Suzuki range, new Swift Sport models are covered by a three-year/60,000-mile vehicle warranty and by Suzuki Assistance, providing 24-hour UK and European roadside assistance, recovery and associated services for 12 months as well as a 12-year perforation warranty. Service intervals are every 9,000 miles.

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Swift range official fuel consumption figures in mpg (L/100km): urban from 41.5 (6.8) to 55.4 (5.1), extra urban from 57.6 (4.9) to 78.5 (3.6), combined from 50.4 (5.6) to 67.3 (4.2). Official CO_2 emissions from 129g/km to 109g/km.

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2005 05 **FIESTA 1.4 ZETEC CLIMATE** 3 door, silver, 55,000 miles ..... Arriving Weekend
2007 07 **FIESTA 2.0 ST** 3 door, black, 42,000 miles £5995
2002 02 **FIESTA 1.6 GHIA** 5 door, black, 77,000 miles £2995
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2000 W **FIESTA 1.3 FINESSE** 5 door, blue, average mileage £1495

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2009 59 **CORSA 1.2 DESIGN** 5 door, blue, 2,000 miles £7995
2009 09 **CORSA 1.4 DESIGN,** 5 door, blue, 14,000 miles £7495

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2007 57 **ASTRA 1.6 DESIGN** 5 door, blue, 24,000 miles £5995
2003 03 **ASTRA 1.6 CLUB** 5 door, green, above average mileage £1995
2002 52 **ASTRA 1.6 CLUB** 5 door, green, 83,000 miles £1995
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2007 07 **PEUGEOT 407 1.6 HDi (110) SE** 5 door, blue, 74,000 miles £4750
2007 07 **ASTRA 1.7 CDTi SRi (100),** 5 door, gold, 32,000 miles £6995
2006 56 **SKODA SUPERB 1.9 TDi (130) COMFORT** 4 door, grey, 66,000 miles £5995
2004 54 **RENAULT LAGUNA ESTATE 1.9 DCi DYNAMIQUE** 5 door, black, 118,000 miles £2495
2002 02 **PEUGEOT 206 1.4 HDi LX** 5 door, green, average mileage £2695
2002 02 **ROVER 75 TOURER 2.0 CDT CLUB** 5 door estate care, burgundy, above average mileage £1995

2002 52 **BMW 318i SEi** 4 door, silver, 86,000 miles £3995

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2010 10 **FOCUS 1.6 ZETEC** 5 door, silver cloth only 7000 miles £9495
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2004 54 **FOCUS 1.6 ZETEC** 5 door, blue, 69,000 miles £3995
2001 51 **FORD FOCUS 1.6 CL** 5 door estate, black, 50,000 miles £2495

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2009 59 **PEUGEOT 207 1.4 HDi S** 5 door, black, 5800 miles £7995
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2004 04 **FOCUS 1.6 ZETEC** 5 door auto, red, 56,000 miles £3795
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2002 02 **VW POLO 1.4 S** 3 door auto, blue, 66,000 miles. £2995
2000 W **ROVER 75 2.0 V6 CLUB** 4 door auto, silver, 66,000 miles £1995
2000 W **TOYOTA COROLLA 1.6 GS** 5 door auto, green, 39,000 miles £2495
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2000 X **CITROEN SYNERGIE 2.0 SX** 5 door 7 seater, blue, 68,000 miles £1995
2000 W **ZAFIRA 1.6 COMFORT** 5 door, silver, high mileage £1995
1999 T **FORD GALAXY 2.3 GHIA X** 5 door, red £995
1997 R **TOYOTA LANDCRUISER COLORADO 3.0 VX** diesel auto 7 seater, green, 186,000 miles £3995

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2000 W **VW POLO 1.4S** 5 door, blue, 88,000 miles £2495
1998 R **VW GOLF 1.6 CL,** 5 door, green, average mileage £1495
1996 P **BMW 318i,** 4 door, silver, 127,000 miles £1695

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2004 54 **RENAULT CLIO 1.2 DYNAMIC** 3 door, silver, 62,000 miles £2995
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2008 08 **FORD KA ZETEC** 3 door, silver, 13000 miles £4995
2004 53 **FORD KA 1.3i COLLECTION** 3 door, burgundy, 90,000 miles £2495

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2002 02 **HONDA CIVIC 1.6 SE** 5 door, green, 51,000 miles £2995
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Representative example

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Price	£9,960	47 Monthly Payments	£149
Customer Deposit	£149	Optional Final Payment (inc option fee of £285)	£3,426
Fiat Deposit Contribution	£500	Total Amount Payable by customer	£10,578
Amount of Credit	£9,311	Rate of Interest (Fixed)	0.74%
Duration of Contract	48 months	Representative 4.4% APR	

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Fiat, the car brand with the lowest average CO_2 emissions in Europe†. Fuel consumption for Fiat 500 1.2 Pop in mpg (l/100km): Urban 49.6 (5.7); Extra Urban 65.7 (4.3); Combined 58.9 (4.8). CO_2 emissions 113g/km. Terms & Conditions apply. Retail customers only. Not available in conjunction with any other offer. With Fiat i-Deal you have the option to return the vehicle and not pay the final payment, subject to the vehicle not having exceeded an agreed annual mileage (A charge of 6p per mile for exceeding 6,000 miles per annum in this example) and being in good condition. Offer subject to status. A guarantee or indemnity may be required. Fiat Financial Services, PO Box 4465, Slough SL1 0RW. We work with a number of creditors to provide finance to our customers, including Fiat Financial Services. January to March 2012 offer. Fiat Deposit Contribution available on Fiat 500 models, and is only available in conjunction with Fiat i-Deal Low Cost. Prices correct at time of printing. Offer may be varied and withdrawn at any time. Subject to availability. †Source: JATO Dynamics. Based on volume-weighted average CO_2 emissions (g/km) of the best selling brands in Europe, year 2010.

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Model shown is the 1.2 SZ4 5 door M/T available at £12,985 on the road (metallic paint available at £399).

Swift range official fuel consumption figures in mpg (L/100km): urban from 41.5 (6.8) to 55.4 (5.1), extra urban from 57.6 (4.9) to 78.5 (3.6), combined from 50.4 (5.6) to 67.3 (4.2). Official CO_2 emissions from 129g/km to 109g/km.

**Minimum deposit of £159 required. Finance available subject to status. Indemnities may be required. For full details please contact your local participating Suzuki Dealer. Suzuki Finance reserves the right to withdraw or amend this offer without notice or prior warning. The offer is available to customers within the UK (excludes Channel Islands and Isle of Man). Suzuki Finance, part of Black Horse Group, St William House, Tresillian Terrace, Cardiff CF10 5BH. This offer is subject to availability for vehicles privately registered between 1st January 2012 and 31st January 2012 from participating Authorised Suzuki Dealers only. We work with a number of carefully selected credit providers who may be able to offer you finance for your purchase. We are only able to offer finance products from these providers. This offer cannot be used in conjunction with any other offers. †The Suzuki Swift 1.3 DDiS model falls into Government Vehicle Excise Band B at £20 per year from year 2 onwards, first year free. All prices and specifications are correct at time of going to press.

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5 DOORS
13006 MILES
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59 VAUXHALL
ASTRA
1.6SXi
5 DOORS
28528 MILES
43.5 MPG
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59 VAUXHALL
ZAFIRA
1.6 DESIGN
5 DOORS
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42.2 MPG
£8690

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09 VAUXHALL
INSIGNIA
1.8 EXCLUSIV
5 DOORS
32725 MILES
36.2 MPG
£8999

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11 VAUXHALL
MERIVA
1.4 SE
5 DOORS
15659 MILES
46.3 MPG
£9490

MERIVA
60 VAUXHALL
INSIGNIA
1.4 S AC
5 DOORS
13143 MILES
48.7 MPG
£9999

INSIGNIA
09 VAUXHALL
INSIGNIA
2.0 EXCLUSIV
5 DOORS
43819 MILES
48.7 MPG
£9499

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HYUNDAI
130 1.4
CLASSIC
5 DOORS
10004 MILES
46.3 MPG
£8290

CORSA
60 VAUXHALL
CORSA
1.3 LIMITED
3 DOORS
19400 MILES
67.3 MPG
£10290

TIGRA
11 VAUXHALL
AGILA
1.8 SPORT 16V
2 DOORS
17872 MILES
36.7 MPG
£4999

ZAFIRA
57 VAUXHALL
ZAFIRA
1.9 DESIGN
5 DOORS
44489 MILES
45.6 MPG
£7690

ASTRA
11 VAUXHALL
CORSA
1.3 EXCITE AC
5 DOORS
3079 MILES
67.3 MPG
£10999

ASTRA
11 VAUXHALL
ASTRA
2.0 16V 160 SE
5 DOORS
6705 miles
62.8 MPG
£14999

CORSA
11 VAUXHALL
CORSA
1.2 EXCITE AC
3 DOORS
2954 MILES
41.5 MPG
£9899

AGILA
11 VAUXHALL
AGILA
1.2 SE AC
5 DOORS
2769 MILES
62.8 MPG
£8499

CORSA
57 VAUXHALL
CORSA
1.2 CLUB A/C
5 DOORS
53048 MILES
48.7 MPG
£5490

ASTRA
11 VAUXHALL
ASTRA
1.6 TURBO SRi
5 DOORS
5966 MILES
41.5 MPG
£14499

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11 VAUXHALL
ASTRA
1.7 EXCLUSIV
5 DOORS
9390 MILES
62.8 MPG
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SPARK
1.0 PLUS
5 DOORS
24224 MILES
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5 DOORS
31000 MILES
48.7 MPG
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08 VAUXHALL
CORSA
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5 DOORS
27001 MILES
50.4 MPG
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ASTRA
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5 DOORS
35729 MILES
50.4 MPG
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FIAT PANDA
1.2 ELEGANZA
5 DOORS
31715 MILES
50.4 MPG
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57 VAUXHALL
ZAFIRA
1.6 LIFE 16V
5 DOORS
25800 MILES
38.7 MPG
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58 TOYTOA AYGO
1.0 PLATINUM
5 DOORS
31715 MILES
61.4 MPG
£5499

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VECTRA
1.8 VVT SRi
5 DOORS
27975 MILES
39.2 MPG
£6699

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Audi A4 2.0 TDi 143 SE 4dr Auto 58reg 63k New Shape £11,799
BMW 120D SE 5dr 58reg 53k, Black, Leather Trim, 6speed £11,499
BMWs 118D M Sports 5dr 58reg From 54k, £30/Year Tax ..... From £10,999
BMWs 118D ES/SE 5dr 08reg/58reg/09reg From 32k, 6speed, Only £30/Year Tax!!! Choice of 6 ..... From £9,999
BMW 116D ES 5dr 59reg 33k Only £30/Year Tax!!!, 6speed £11,499
BMW 325D M Sport 4dr 08reg 42k, 6speed etc £12,999
BMWs 325D SE 59reg 34k/35k 6speed etc, Black £14,999
BMW 320D SE 58reg Later Model, 45k, 6speed etc, £95/yr tax £12,799
BMW 318D Edition SE 58reg 58k, Leather, 6spd, £95/yr tax!! £11,499
Mondeos 2.0 TDCi 140 Titanium X 5dr 58reg from 35k, 6speed etc. Choice of 3 ..... From £9,199
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X-Type 2.2 D S Auto 4dr 58reg Later Model £10,499
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X-Type 2.0 D S 4dr 58reg Later Model, 39k £9,999
X-Type 2.0 D S 4dr 58reg Later Model, 70k, Sat Nav £8,399
X-Type 2.0D SE 4dr 04reg 90k, Leather etc £3,699
Mazda 6 2.0D 140 Sport 5dr 58reg 55k, Half Leather, 6speed £8,499
Merc C200 CDi Elegance 4dr 58reg 48k, 6speed etc £12,499
Peug 207s 1.4 HDi S 3dr 58reg 30k/32k, £30/YrTax!! ..... From £5,999
Megane 1.5 DCi Expression 5dr 10reg 21k, £30/yr tax!! £8,499
Megane 1.5 DCi Expres 5dr 59reg 25k, New Shape, £30tax £8,299
Avensis 2.2 D4D TR 5dr 58reg 63k, 6speed, Sat Nav etc £7,199
Astra 1.9 CDTi 120 Sport Hatch SXi 3dr 57reg £6,499
Astra 1.7 CDTi Elite 5dr 08reg 57k, Leather etc £6,599
Golfs 2.0 GT TDi 140 5dr 58reg from 42k, Leather Trim ..... From £9,699
Golf 2.0SDi S 5dr 58reg Only 30k, Black £7,699
Golfs 1.9 TDi Match 5dr 58reg 48k/51k £8,399
Golf 1.9 TDi S 5dr 58reg 32k £8,199
Golf 1.6 TDi SE 5dr 59reg 48k, New Shape, £30/yr road tax £11,199
Passat 2.0 TDi 140 Highline 4dr 58reg 39k, Leather, 6speed £9,999
Passat 2.0 TDi 140 Highline 4dr 58reg 64k, Leather, 6speed £8,799
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S40 2.0 D R Design Sport Powershift Auto 58reg 42k, Leather £10,799

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BMW 320D 177 SE Touring Est 58reg 62k Sat Nav, 6speed £12,999
BMW 318D 143 SE Touring Est 09reg 51k, £95/yr tax!, 6speed £12,999
BMW 318i ES Touring Estate 58reg 66k, Later Model, 6speed £9,499
C4 Picasso 1.6 VTi VTR+ 5dr 58reg 23k £7,499

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Focus 1.6 TDCi 110 Titanium Estate 58reg 49k, £30/Year Tax £8,299
Focus 1.6 Style Auto Estate 08reg New Model 35k £5,499

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Facelift Models 57reg/08reg/58reg Choice of 7
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Mondeos 1.8/2.0 TDCi Zetec/Econetic/Edge Estates
..... 08reg/58reg/59reg Choice of 6 51k-68k ..... From £7,499
Mazda 5 1.8 TS2 58reg 17k, 7seats £7,199
Merc C220 CDi Bluefficiency Elegance Estate 59reg 53k £13,999
Nissan Note 5dr Auto 09reg 26k, New Model, Black, Sat Nav £6,999
Peugeot 207 1.4 VTi S Station Wagon 58reg 24k £5,999
Peugeot 207 1.4 VTi S Station Wagon 08reg 40k £5,499

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7 Seats, Sat Nav, 6speed, Alloys
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Scenic 1.6 Dynamique 08reg 25k, 6speed etc £5,299
Scenic 1.6 Dynamique 08reg 24k, 6speed etc £5,299
Scenic 1.6 Dynamique 57reg Only 14k!!!, 6speed etc £4,999
Scenics 1.6 Dynamique Autos 08reg/58reg from 22k ..... From £5,199
Laguna 2.0 DCi 150 Dynamique S Estate 58reg 29k, 6speed £7,999
Verso 1.8 VVT SRi 58reg 34k 7seats £7,999
Astras 1.8 Design Auto Estates 08reg/58reg 25k ..... From £5,199
Astra 1.7 CDTi Club Estate 58reg 60k £5,699
Astra 1.7 CDTi Life Estate 58reg 44k, air con £5,899
Astra 1.6 Life Estate 08reg 50k, air con £4,999

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Golf 2.0 TDi 140 SE DSG Auto Estate 58reg 56k £8,799
Golf 1.9 TDi SE Estate 58reg 57k £8,599
Passat 1.9 TDi Highline Estate 58reg 58k, Leather etc £9,499

SELECTED OTHERS

Focus 1.6 zetec 5dr 58reg 22k, Later Model £6,799
Focus 1.6 Zetec Auto 5dr 08reg Later Model, 45k £5,499
Focus 1.6 zetec Climate Auto 5dr 06reg £3,999
Mazda 3s 1.6 Takara Autos 5dr 58reg from 21k ..... From £5,999
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07 57 TOYOTA AVENSIS, grey, black leather, sat nav cruise control ..... WAS £6995 NOW £6495 SAVE £500
08 58 PASSAT HIGH LINE, blue, leather, cruise control, alloys..... WAS £7995 NOW £6995 SAVE £1000
08 58 MONDEO ZETEC, grey, air con, alloys..... WAS £5995 NOW £5495 SAVE £500
08 08 FORD MONDEO GHIA TDCI ..... WAS £6995 NOW £6495 SAVE £500
03 53 RANGE ROVER 3.0TDI VOUGE, automatic, met blue, cream leather, sat nav, a/c, cd player, alloys, side chrome step..... £10995
07 07 CHRYSLER 300 C CRD AUTO, met grey, 39k, on owner, FSH, RCL, EW, AC, CD player, alloys, privacy glass £10495
08 08 FORD MONDEO GHIA TDCI 140 BHP ESTATE, met grey, alloys, a/c, cd player, fsh..... £7495
07 57 VOLKSWAGEN GOLF 1.9 MATCH AUTO DSG, alloys, a/c, cd player, met silver, 1 owner, fsh..... £7295
08 58 FORD MONDEO 2.0 TDCi TITANIUM, 5dr, met grey, a/c, alloys, cd player, 1 owner, fsh..... £6995
07 57 TOYOTA AVENSIS ..... WAS £7995 NOW £6995 SAVE £1000
08 58 FORD MONDEO 2.0 TDCi GHIA, met silver, cd player, a/c, alloys, 1 owner, fsh..... WAS £6995 NOW £6495 SAVE £500
07 57 TOYOTA AVENSIS 2.2 D4D T180, met grey, one owner, FSH, alloys, AC, 86k..... £6495
08 08 FORD MONDEO ZELET..... WAS £6995 NOW £6495 SAVE £500
08 08 FORD MONDEO 2.0 TDCi TITANIUM, thunder grey, sat nav, alloys, a/c, one owner, fsh..... £5995
08 57 SAAB 95 AIRFLOW 150 DT SALOON, met blue, 1 owner, fsh, alloys, a/c, 79k ..... WAS £4995 £4495 SAVE £500
08 58 FORD MONDEO ZETEC..... WAS £5995 NOW £5495 SAVE £500
07 57 FORD FOCUS ZETEC TDCI 5dr, met grey, 1 owner, fsh, a/c, alloys, cd £5295
07 57 FORD VAUXHALL ASTRA ELITE, grey ..... WAS £5495 NOW £5295 SAVE £200
03 03 MERCEDES C200 CD, AUTO DIESEL ESTATE, met blue, a/c, alloys, roof rails, cd player..... £4995
08 08 VAUXHALL VECTRA 1.9 CDTI SRi, 150bhp, met red, one owner, fsh, ac, alloys, cd player..... £4995
08 08 VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.7 CDTi SXI ESTATE, black, 1 owner, fsh, cd player, a/c, alloys..... £4995
06 56 FORD FOCUS GHIA 2.0 TDCi, metallic black, alloys, a/c, player £4995
04 04 KIA SEDONA LE, 5dr, met gold, 7 seater, 50,000 miles, alloys, a/c £4995
08 08 VAUXHALL VECTRA 1.9 CDTi EXCLUSIVE, 5 door, met blue, 1 owner, fsh, aircon, cd player ..... WAS £4695 NOW £4295 SAVE £400
07 07 FORD FOCUS TDCi ZETEC CLIMATE 5dr, met red, a/c, alloys, cd player..... £4495
07 57 SAAB 95 ..... WAS £4995 NOW £4495 SAVE £500
07 57 MONDEO TDCI HB, met black, one owner, fsh, a/c, cd player £3995
07 57 VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.7 CDTI ELITE 5 door, met gary, one owner, fsh, air con, alloy ..... WAS £5495 NOW £5295 SAVE £200

SALE

ALL PETROL

08 08 VW GOLF 1.4 5DR, met blue, one owner, fsh, air con,cd player..... WAS £6495 NOW £5995 SAVE £500
10 10 MINI GRAPHITE 1.6 pepper pack, full custom leather interior, mp3 player £12995
07 57 BMW 330i M Sport Coupe, metallic blue, fsh, a/c, alloys, leather, one owner..... £9995
08 08 VOLKSWAGEN GOLF 1.4 S, 5dr, a/c, cd player, one owner, fsh, metallic blue..... £5995
03 03 MERCEDES-BENZ S350 AUTOMATIC SALOON, 4 door, silver, 1 owner, fsh, alloys, sat nav, cd..... £5495
07 57 VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.6 LIFE , 5 door, Metallic Silver, r/m/c, e/w, a/c, cd player £3995
03 03 MERCEDES 180 CLASSIC SE, silver, ac, alloys, cd player, fsh £3995
07 07 VAUXHALL VECTRA 1.8 VVTI LIFE 5dr, flame red, a/c, cd player ..... WAS £3195 NOW £2995 SAVE £200
04 54 VAUXHALL ZAFRIA 1.8 LIFE 5DR, met black, 70k, FSH, RCL, EW, CD player ..... WAS £3495 NOW £2995 SAVE £500
02 02 HONDA ACCORD VETEC SPORT, red, ac, alloys, cd player, rear spoiler ..... WAS £2495 NOW £2295 SAVE £200

SALE

AUTOMATICS

04 54 AUDI A4 25 TDI AUTO CONVERIBLE, met blue, 54,000 miles, ac, alloys, cd player..... WAS £8495 NOW £7995 SAVE £500
07 07 CHEVROLET TACUMA AUTOMATIC, met blue, a/c, alloys ..... WAS £2995 NOW £2495 SAVE £500
03 03 VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.6 CLUB AUTO 5dr, diamond black, a/c, cd player, fsh £2195

SALE

CONVERTIBLE

04 54 AUDI A4 25 TDI AUTO CONVERIBLE. met blue, 54,000 miles, ac, alloys, cd player..... WAS £8495 NOW £7995 SAVE £500
05 05 FORD STREET KA, met silver, red leather, a/c, alloys £3995
02 02 TOYOTA MR2 CONVERTIBLE, met silver, alloys, black leather, fsh, cd £3995

SALE

VANS

VAN OF THE WEEK
08 08 ASTRA VAN 1.7 CDTi CLUB, 26,000 miles, 1 owner, fsh, privicy glass, e/w, rcl, cd player front fogs, lamps, alloys..... £6995 + NO VAT

06 06 IVECO DAILY 3920cc Car Transporter..... £10000 + VAT
07 07 VW TRANSPORTER T5 AUTO TDi SWD, chrome pack alloys, rcl, a/c, silver, cd player, 1 owner, fsh, sld..... £9995 + VAT
08 08 TRANSIT T380 JUMBO SPECIAL EDITON 32 200 bhp diesel ac, alloys, rcl, ew,cl, cd player..... £8495 + VAT
08 08 TRANSIT T350 LWB GLX, silver, one owner, fsh, alloys, ac, ew, rcl, cd player ..... £5995 + VAT
08 08 TRANSIT T350 LWB GLX, silver, one onwer, fsh, alloys, ac, ew, rcl, cd player ..... £5995 + VAT
08 08 VAUXHALL VIVARO 2.0 CDTI LWB in white, a/c, cd player, sld ..... £5995 + VAT
07 57 FORD TRANSIT, white, rcl, cd player, side loading door, one owner, fsh ..... £5695 + VAT
08 08 RENAULT TRAFIC white, 1 owner, fsh, rcl, e/w, a/c, cd player, 1 owner, fsh..... £4995 + VAT
03 03 MITSUBISHI 4 LIFE DOUBLE CAB 2.5 TD PICK UP 4X4, green/silver, alloys, cd, carry boy..... £4995 NO VAT
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2008 FORD MONDEO 2.0 TDCi ZETEC 5 Door Diesel 140BHP Estate, sterling silver with grey cloth, only 40,595 miles since new, service history, ABS, air conditioning, alloy wheels, anti-theft system, cruise control, multi airbags, electric mirrors, electric windows, heated screen, park distance control, remote locking, radio/CD, reverse parking aid ..... Now £8,995

2009 HONDA JAZZ 1.4 i-VTEC ES 5 Door I-Shift Automatic, only 13,995 miles, 09 reg, graphite grey metallic with anthracite cloth upholstery, one private owner with full service history, fitted air conditioning, alloy wheels, ABS, parking sensors, multi airbags, radio/CD, PAS, electric mirrors, traction control, folding rear seats, body coloured bumpers, immobiliser, electric windows, 3x3 point rear seat belts, isofix child seat anchor points, remote locking, rear wiper ..... Now £8,995

2005 AUDI A6 2.0 TDi DIESEL S LINE 4 Door Saloon, 05 Reg, 6 speed, 86,995 miles with service history, smoke silver metallic with black half leather upholstery, 140 BHP, fitted air conditioning, ABS, alloy wheels, cruise control, multi airbags, immobiliser, radio/CD, sports seats, traction control, body coloured bumpers, electric mirrors, height adjustable drivers seat, remote locking, electric windows, fog lights, PAS ..... Now £7,995

2007 SKODA SUPERB 2.0 TDi PD 140 Elegance, 4 door saloon, 57 reg, olive green metallic with black leather upholstery, just 37,995 miles with service history, huge spec including 6 speed, navigation system, air conditioning, alloy wheels, cruise control, parking sensors, heated front seats, folding rear seats, headlight washers, multi airbags, radio/CD multichanger, PAS, electric mirrors, electric windows, alarm, height adjustable drivers seat, remote locking, adjustable front seat ..... Now £7,995

2005 MERCEDES BENZ C200 Komp Classic SE, 4 door auto saloon, brilliant silver metallic with black leather, 55 reg, Just 41,995 miles with service history, automatic, PAS, leather upholstery, air conditioning, ABS, alloy wheels, cruise control, electric windows, electric mirrors, electrically adjustable seats, remote locking, radio/CD, multi air bags, a credit to its previous owners ..... Now £7,995

2005 VOLKSWAGEN PASSAT 2.0 SPORT TDi Diesel, 4 Door Saloon, 55 reg, only 36,995 miles with service history, diamond black metallic with anthracite cloth, fitted air conditioning, electric sunroof, ABS, 6 speed, alloy wheels, electric mirrors, electric windows, park distance control, remote locking, radio/CD, anti theft system, multi airbags, PAS ..... Now £7,695

2008 CITROEN C3 1.6 HDi 16V Exclusive Plus 5 Door Diesel, 58 reg, 1 owner, 31,295 miles, service history, graphite grey metallic with grey cloth, 5 speed box, air conditioning, alloy wheels, ABS, rear folding seats, immobiliser, navigation system, radio/CD, PAS, body coloured bumpers, electric windows, electric mirrors, alarm, 3x3 point rear seat belts, height adjustable drivers seat, multi air bags, remote central locking, Isofix child seat anchor points, rear wiper, fog lights ..... Now £6,995

2009 HYUNDAI 130 1.4 STYLE, 5 door hatch, only 20,395 miles with service history, 09 reg, pearl grey metallic with black half leather upholstery, air conditioning, ABS, 5 speed, alloy wheels, multi air bags, immobiliser, folding rear seats, radio/CD, electric mirrors, PAS, traction control, body coloured bumpers, electric windows, alarm, 3x3 point rear seat belts, height adjustable drivers seat, remote locking, balance of manufacturers 5 year warranty, fog lights, rear wiper ..... Now £6,995

2007 TOYOTA YARIS 1.8 VVT-I SR 3 Door Hatchback, only 15,195 miles, 57 regd, private owner, granite grey metallic with grey cloth, fitted air conditioning, 5 speed box, ABS, alloy wheels, service history, folding rear seats, multi airbags, radio/CD, sports seats, traction control, PAS, electric windows, immobiliser, lumbar support, electric mirrors, rear wiper, remote locking, height adjustable drivers seat, fog lights, body coloured bumpers ..... Now £6,495

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2006 FORD FUSION 1.4 TDCi ZETEC 5 Door Hatchback, ice blue metallic with black leather upholstery, only 35,995 miles with service history, fitted 5 speed gearbox, air conditioning, ABS, Diesel, alloy wheels, folding rear seats, immobiliser, air bags, radio/CD, PAS, height adjustable drivers seat, rear wiper, remote locking, fog lights, body coloured bumpers, electric windows, electric mirrors ..... Now £4,995

2009 KIA PICANTO 1.1 STRIKE 5 Door Hatch, only 11,395 miles, 59 reg, 1 owner, service history, canary yellow coachwork with charcoal cloth upholstery, air conditioning, ABS, one private owner, balance of manufacturers warranty, radio/CD, air bags, folding rear seats, immobiliser, electric windows, PAS, body coloured bumpers, Isofix child seat anchor points, alarm, remote locking, rear wiper ..... Now £4,995

2005 TOYOTA AVENSIS 2.0 D-4D T3-S DIESEL 5 Door Estate, sat navigation, 05 reg, fern silver metallic with charcoal cloth, 112,395 miles with service history, fitted navigation system, air conditioning, alloy wheels, 5 speed box, ABS, multi air bags, folding rear seats, immobiliser, radio/CD, roof rails, body coloured bumpers, electric mirrors, PAS, electric windows, alarm, remote locking, height adjustable drivers seat, rear wiper ..... Now £3,995

2004 SUBARU Impreza 2.0 GX Sport 4WD 4 door saloon, 04 reg, calypso blue metallic with grey cloth with service history, 53,095 miles fitted, 5 speed box, ABS, air conditioning, alloy wheel, remote locking, immobiliser, radio/cd, sport seats, airbags, PAS, body coloured bumpers, electric windows, electric mirrors, alarm, 3x3 point rear seat belts, height adjustable drivers seat ..... Now £3,995

2006 VOLKSWAGEN FOX 1.2 3 Door Hatch, one private owner, only 13,195 miles, 06 reg, arctic silver metallic with grey cloth upholstery, ABS, 5 speed box, service history, drivers air bag, passenger air bag, radio/CD, PAS, immobiliser, Isofix child seat anchor points, rear wiper, steering wheel reach adjustment, height adjustable drivers seat, full size spare wheel ..... Now £3,995

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2005 CITROEN C3 1.4i SX 5 Door Automatic, 1 owners, air conditioning, 55 reg, 56,295 miles, with service history, wine red metallic with grey cloth fitted ABS, multi air bags, radio/CD, PAS, electric mirrors, immobiliser, folding rear seats, body coloured bumpers, electric windows, remote central locking, rear wiper, fog light, 3x3 point rear seat belts, height adjustable drivers seat ..... Now £3,495

2005 VAUXHALL VECTRA 1.9 CDTi Diesel Elite (150) 5 door Automatic Estate Car, 55 reg with factory satellite navigation systems, star silver metallic with black leather upholstery, 191,295 miles with service history, fitted air conditioning, ABS, alloy wheels, multi air bags, electric mirrors, electric windows, park distance control, colour coding - body, PAS, radio/CD ..... Now £2,995

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07 57 Mitsubishi L200 Diamond D/Cab Automatic, silver, great spec ..... **Thank you SOLD**

08 08 Peugeot 4007 2.2 GT Diesel, 7 Seat, tanzanite blue, plenty of room for the family & lovely £11395

09 09 Ford Ranger 3.0 Wildtrack D/Cab, blue, lovely looking truck ..... £13495 + VAT

09 59 Toyota Hilux HL3 3.0 D4-D D/Cab Automatic, polar white, leather upholstery, lovely ..... £18495 + VAT

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04 54 Vauxhall Vectra 1.9 CDTi Design, ultra blue, lovely condition, great economy ..... **Thank you SOLD**

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04 04 Mercedes E320 CDi Avantgarde Auto, tealite blue, absolutley stunning, low mileage £10995

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04 54 Vauxhall Vectra 1.9 Cdti Design, ultra blue, lovely condition, great economy ..... **Thank you SOLD**

06 06 Vauxhall Astra 1.9 CDTi Sri, 5dr, star silver, full service history, nice car £3695

06 06 Renault Clio Expression DCi 3DR, silver, supplied by ourselves, lovely car £4395

06 06 Saab 9-5 vector ti-d estate, ocean blue, leather trim, lovely car £4995

05 55 Vauxhall Astra Sri CDTi 3dr, star silver, immaculate £5295

07 07 Citroen Xsara Picasso Exclusive 1.6 hdi, great spec, plenty of room £5795

08 08 Peugeot 308 S 1.6 HDi 5dr, stone grey, excellent fuel economy £6295

07 56 Volkswagen golf 1.9 match tdi 5dr, dolphin grey, lovely ..£7995

06 06 BMW 520 D SE 2.0 Diesel Estate, amethyst grey, matching leather trim, service history, immaculate £9995

07 57 Audi A4 2.0 TDI S-Line Automatic 4DR, panther black, great spec, lovely car £10795

09 09 Mini Cooper 1.6 Diesel, bright silver, great performance & economy £10995

04 04 Mercedes E320 CDi Avantgarde Auto, tealite blue, absolutely stunning, low mileage £10995

08 08 Peugeot 4007 2.2 GT Diesel, 7 Seat, tanzanite blue, plenty of room for the family & lovely £11395

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07 57 Audi A4 2.0 TDI S-Line Automatic 4DR, panther black, great spec lovely car £10995

04 04 Mercedes E320 CDi Avantgarde Auto, tealite blue, absolutley stunning, low mileage £10995

07 07 Mercedes SLK 350 3.5 Automatic Convertible, low mileage & immaculate ..... **Thank you SOLD**

Sports & Convertibles

97 R Saab 900 Si 2.0 Convertible, dark blue, low mileage, supplied by ourselves £1595

03 53 Vauxhall Astra Coupe 2.2 Bertone, black, stunning Sporty coupe £1995

99 V Mazda Mx5 1.8 Convertible, sunburst orange, chrome roll over bars, nice & clean £2995

04 04 Audi A4 1.8 T Sport Convertible, ice blue, red leather, lovely £5495

01 Y Holden Special GTS 5.7 4DR, knights blue, superb example £8645

Commercials

02 52 Toyota Hilux 2.5 single cab pick up, white, good condition ..... **Thank you SOLD**

07 07 Vauxhall Corsavan 1.2 CDTi, polar white, clean & tidy ..... £3395 + VAT

05 54 Vauxhall Astra 1.7 CDTi, panel white, clean & tidy £3495 NO VAT

06 56 Ford Transit Connect T200L SWB, white, very clean Van ..... £4495 +VAT

08 08 VW Crafter 35LWB H/Roof 109hp Panel Van, white, 1 owner, FSH, lined ..... £7995 + VAT

08 58 Volkswagen Caddy C20 DSG TDi van, silver, ply lined, lovely rare automatic van ..... £8995 + VAT

07 57 Mitsubishi L200 Diamond D/Cab Automatic, silver, great spec ..... **Thank you SOLD**

10 10 VW Transporter T28 TDi Panel Van, white, just run In! ..... £11995 + VAT

09 09 Ford Ranger 3.0 Wildtrack D/Cab, blue, lovely looking truck ..... £13495 + VAT

09 59 Toyota Hilux HL3 3.0 D4-D Automatic Double Cab, white, extras include leather trim, lovely ..... £18495 + VAT

Part Exs To Clear

95 M Volkswagen polo 1.0 l 3dr, peppermint, excellent condition inside & out £1195

00 V Saab 9-5 2.0T SE 4Dr Oslo Blue, new turbo, lovely car MOT Oct 2012 ..... £1295

01 51 Vauxhall Vectra 2.2 SRi 4DR, green, very clean & tidy, MoT Sept 2012 ..... £1595

02 51 Mercedes vito 112 cdi 2.2 diesel automatic, yellow £2195 no vat

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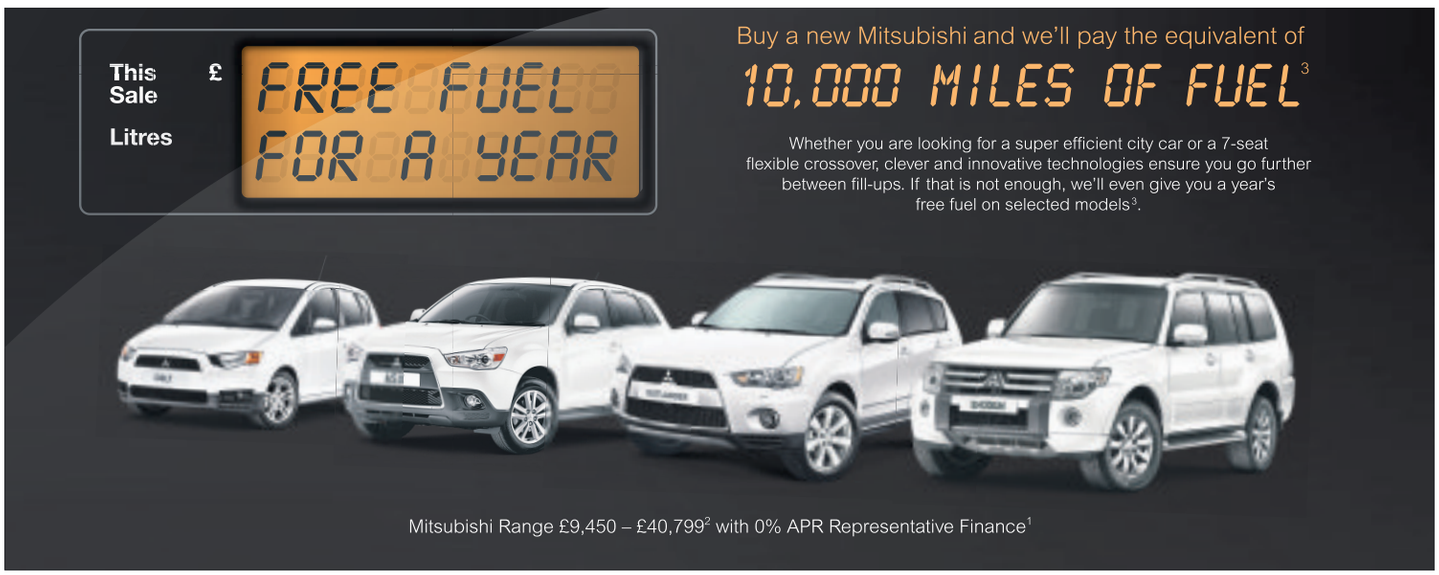

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1. 0% APR Representative finance requires a 50% deposit, other offers are available – ask for details. Indemnities may be required.

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*For models registered between 24th & 31st January in dealers name, this discounted offer precludes all other retail offers

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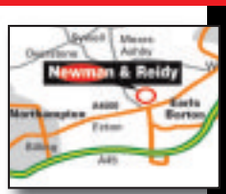

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VAUXHALL

Official Government Test Environmental Data. Fuel consumption figures mpg (litres/100km) and CO_2 emissions (g/km). Vauxhall range: Urban: 14.4 (19.6)-67.3 (4.2), Extra-urban: 27.4 (10.3)-91.1 (3.1), Combined: 20.6 (13.7)-80.7 (3.5). CO_2 emissions: 324-94g/km.

*Not available on Expression, ES, ES Tech & Tech line models. **Finance Deposit Allowance not available on Astra GTC. Finance provided by Vauxhall Finance, a trading style of GMAC UK plc, PO Box 6666, Cardiff, CF15 7YT. Finance is subject to status, terms and conditions. Applicants must be 18 years or over. Offer applies to private individuals, Vauxhall Partners and small businesses 1-24 (purchase only excluding B2B). All other customers are excluded. Offer available on orders or registrations before 02 April 2012. †Vauxhall Lifetime Warranty covers lifetime ownership of first registered keeper, 100,000 mile limit. Terms and conditions apply. ^Customer deposit shown after deduction of Vauxhall contribution.

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04, taxed till march, 12 months mot, good clean vehicle, lez compatible high mileage hence

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52 plate, 1.2, taxed and mot'd, 60k miles, 5dr, red good condition

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1.3 ghia, 1996, 65000 miles, good condition, 9 months mot, 4 months tax, e/w, c/l, all old mot and service history

£1250 ono

07971 286204
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Ford

Ford Focus
Petrol, Hatchback, 2001, Blue, 60000 miles, MOT Nov. 2012. Tax Nov.2012. CD player,

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1.8 LX, Blue 07/99, v.g.c., 5 door, electric windows, PAS, MOT 07/12, taxed end 01/12,

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Ford focus 2004
1.6 ztec, petrol, 89k, 12 mths mot + taxed, alloys, air con, 5 door, dark green, good all round condition

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2001, 51 reg, 74000 miles, 3 dr, mot till jan 2013, tax aug 2012 very good condition, cd player, lovely car

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ex con

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Nissan
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£995

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Peugeot

PEUGEOT 106,
1.1 petrol, 3dr, 1997, white, mot for 11 months, no taxk £525

07999 453937

Peugeot 206
03 Reg, black, 3 door, 10 months MOT, 4 months TAX, 108k Miles, FSH, recent battery and exhaust, new clutch

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Renault Megane Scenic Alize
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Rover-MG

Rover CityRover
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07846 906586

Vauxhall

Vauxhall Astra
1997, 1.6 manual, 12 months mot, a/c, good condition

£550ono

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VAUXHALL CORSA
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VAUXHALL SIGNUM
elegance, DTI, 2 litre, 2004, 54 plate, silver, 81,000 miles, taxed/MoT April

£2,700 ono

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Vauxhall Zafira DTi Elegance
51 plate, high mileage, diesel, MOT, TAX, black

£1100

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Vauxhall

Vauxhall Corsa
Petrol, Hatchback, 2002, Silver, 80,000 miles, Tax and MOT, Good condition, 5 doors, Ideal first car,

£2000 OVNO

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www.bedfordschool.org.uk

Bedford Charity is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

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Closing Date
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Interview Date
31st January 2012

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If you would like to find out more about the post then please contact the headteacher for an informal discussion. Visits to the school are warmly welcomed.

Application forms/details are downloadable from our website or by emailing the school.

We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and the successful applicant will be required to undertake an enhanced CRB check.

CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS:
Thursday, 2 February 2012 (12.00 noon)

INTERVIEWS: **Wednesday, 8 / Thursday, 9 February 2012**

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- A commitment to raising the educational achievements of all students?
- A strong record of outstanding practice, with clear evidence of excellent, positive impact?

If so, we may be the school for you as we are seeking to appoint:

Teacher of Religious Education

For September 2012 (or Easter 2012 depending on the applicant).

The Department is part of our Humanities Specialism and has excellent teaching outcomes. All staff are dedicated and highly motivated, with outstanding exam results that attract huge numbers at AS and A Level.

Teacher of Science (maternity cover)

Needed for two terms from Easter to December 2012. Science facilities are excellent, with newly refurbished labs and a dedicated ICT suite. A range of courses are taught in the Department, and AS and A Level proves popular.

Teacher of Music (maternity cover)

Needed for May 2012. Music is on the increase in the school, and feeds in to the lively and highly successful Performing Arts Department. This position could be on a part-time basis (3 days a week) or full time across St Thomas More and our feeder Catholic school, St Gregory's Middle School in Biddenham, Bedford dependent on the applicant.

All applicants need to be enthusiastic, have sound background knowledge of the subject, good classroom craft and be willing to move these growing Departments forward at all Key Stages. Both NQTs and experienced teachers are invited to apply. Initial teacher training and CPD are given high priority. Staff are supportive and welcoming in this oversubscribed and successful 13-18 Catholic school which is classed as OUTSTANDING by Ofsted .

To register an interest, view recruitment documentation and/or complete an application form, please go to the job opportunities page on the school website where you will find details of these vacancies or contact the school office at the above address. Closing date for applications is 6th February 2012. Interviews to be held very soon after.

We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. The successful applicant will be required to undertake an enhanced CRB check.

'An outstanding Catholic school' Ofsted – February 2011

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equality choice independence

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The Papworth Trust is a leading disability charity with over 90 years' experience of championing equality, providing choice and promoting independence.

We are looking to recruit

Personal Support Assistants (Ref. PAP/399)

Salary: £14,232.67 - £15,689.23 + enhancements (see Papworth Trust Benefits).

Hours: Full time, part time and Bank staff available. Waking nights and sleep-ins will be required.

Location: Bedfordshire.

We require enthusiastic people to deliver care and support to people with learning disabilities and complex needs who are living in their own homes in Bedfordshire. If you are willing to work flexibly and are committed to supporting disabled people to make their own choices by supporting them to maximise their independence, retain their individuality and increase integration and understanding within the wider community we want to hear from you.

All Personal Support Assistants participate in a rota to provide 24 hour personal care and support.

Our Personal Support Assistants are subject to an enhanced CRB check and satisfactory employment references. We offer enhancements where applicable and full training. A full UK driving licence would be an advantage. If you want to work in a growing organisation that is helping more people to increase their independence, we look forward to receiving your application.

Closing date for applications: Friday 3rd February 2012
Interviews will take place on: 13th & 14th February 2012

To apply for this role please download an application pack from our website: www.papworth.org.uk/jobs.php

Alternatively please email recruitment@papworth.org.uk for an application pack and further information quoting the relevant reference number and location.

Papworth Trust is an equal opportunities employer. Charity Number: 211234.

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Support Workers

Part-time • £14,753 - £16,289 pro rota (dependent on qualifications) • Milton Keynes

Scope exists to bring about changes that will help create a society where disabled people have the same opportunities as everyone else. Milton Keynes Community Care Services is registered as a care home providing support to people with a wide range of impairments in 13 flats, some in a courtyard development around the day service and others within one mile of the courtyard.

We require support workers to join our team to provide personal care and support to disabled customers living in their own homes and in the community. The role will also require some cooking and cleaning. Shift work, including weekends will be required.

Two of these vacancies are reserved for disabled people with a recognised impairment, condition or long-term limiting illness in line with the Equality Act. The successful applicants will be subject to an enhanced CRB check.

To download an application pack please visit **www.scope.org.uk/jobs** or call 01908 660364.

Closing date: 10 February 2012.

Scope is a registered charity, number 208231

scope
About cerebral palsy.
For disabled people achieving equality.

Newnham Middle School

Achievement through opportunity

Headteacher: Maxine Burrows
Number on roll: 600

As from April 2012 we require a

Science Subject Leader

TLR 2C (£6,196)

We are looking for an **excellent, dynamic** and **motivated teacher** with the **vision** to **raise standards** of achievement and to **improve teaching and learning** in **Science**.

Closing date: 9am Tuesday 31st January
Interviews: Thursday 2nd February

Newnham Middle School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. The position requires an enhanced criminal records bureau (CRB) disclosure.

Full details of the post and the Bedford Borough application form are on our website on www.newnham.beds.sch.uk. Alternatively please contact Pauline Corbyn, Headteacher's PA (pcorbyn@newnham-middle.org.uk)

Mrs Burrows is available for tours of the school and an informal chat

Polhill Avenue, Bedford MK41 9DT
Tel: (01234) 303 403 Fax: (01234) 303 404 www.newnham.beds.sch.uk

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MILTON KEYNES EDUCATION TRUST

Bringing out the very best in children and young people

Fyfield Barrow Milton Keynes MK7 7WH
Tel. 01908 677954.

Business Director

The newly established Milton Keynes Education Trust is looking for a self-motivated, determined and proactive Business Director to lead the strategic development of the Trust's business interests and the day-to-day line management of support services at Walton High.

Milton Keynes Education Trust aims to establish a group of schools that work in partnership to enhance and enrich the lives of children and young people in Milton Keynes by enabling them to make the most of outstanding learning opportunities and instilling an appreciation that there are no limits to what they can achieve.

The Business Director will work closely with the Chief Executive Officer and the Finance Director and be a member of the Trust's Executive Leadership Team.

The Business Director will:

- further build on the success of Walton High
- create, develop and maintain relationships to advance the Trust's aims
- be committed to creating new business opportunities in a range of different sectors

We offer:

- negotiable salary within the range £41,616 - £50,379
- local government pension
- holiday entitlement: 27 days, plus Bank Holidays

Further details and an application pack are available at www.waltonhigh.org.uk

Closing date: Tuesday 14 February 2012.
Interviews w/b 27 February 2012.

This post requires an enhanced Criminal Records Bureau disclosure.

MKET is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expects all staff to share this commitment.

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MILTON KEYNES COUNCIL

Senior Placement Officer

£32,800 - £38,042 **Ref: 50018407**

You will manage all external fostering and residential placements and relationships with our social workers, providers and our partners Buckinghamshire County Council. A qualified and experienced social worker you will have extensive knowledge of external services, preferably with expertise in contracting, negotiation, procurement and outcomes based services.

This post is subject to safer recruitment practices.

For informal enquiries please contact Danny Conway on 01908 253914.

Interview date: 20 February 2012.

Accredited Financial Investigator

£28,636 - £33,661 **Ref: 50018404**

37 hours per week

Accredited to carry out Proceeds of Crime Act investigations, including cash seizures, you will help develop and deliver new policies and procedures in this area. You will form part of the specialist investigations team but be the only financial investigator in the authority.

For informal enquiries please contact Karen Ford on 01908 252267.

Closing date: 19 February 2012.

Interview date: 8 March 2012.

Social Worker **Ref: 50018423**

Family Assessment and Support Team

£25,472 - £33,661 pro rata + 10% enhancement as you will be part of the out of hours service on a rota basis. Essential car user allowance is also payable

30 hours per week

A fully qualified and registered social work professional, you will work creatively to ensure the safety, well-being, and development of children and young people. It's a challenging role involving assessing the needs of children, young people and their families, analysing information, and developing and implementing care plans and interventions.

This post is subject to safer recruitment practices.

For informal enquiries please contact David Glover-Wright, Jane Morrison or Garry Lake on 01908 253168.

Interview date: 27 February 2012.

Residential Worker

£17,802 - £21,519 pro rata

Annualised hours **Ref: 50018378**

Posts available at Furze House and Westminster Drive

We need adaptable individuals to support children and young people with learning disabilities. You'll need patience and a sense of humour as you oversee finger painting, monitor care plans, and receive pizza deliveries. Your willingness to work late shifts, weekends, and bank holidays will be matched by a desire to train.

This role is subject to safer recruitment practices.

For informal enquiries please contact Furze House on 01908 521048 or Estea Fourie, Westminster Drive on 01908 644982.

Library Assistant (Westcroft)

£13,589 - £16,054 pro rata **Ref: 50018029**

10.5 hours per week including Saturdays, Fixed-term until 30 September 2012

As part of a team you will assist senior staff in the provision of library services at Westcroft Library. Flexible, reliable and able to take charge of the opening and securing of the building you will have excellent communication, IT library skills, and you will have GSCE Maths and English (A-C) or equivalent.

Closing date for all roles unless stated: 12 February 2012.

To apply online visit: www.miltonkeynes.gov.uk/jobs-careers
For an application form, email: jobs@milton-keynes.gov.uk

If you have a hearing impairment and have access to Minicom please phone 01908 252727 (office hours only). Please quote appropriate reference. Salaries will normally start at the first point of the grade. We are unable to accept CVs, unless accompanied by a completed application form.

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ST ANDREW'S carehomes

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Deputy Manager
at Danecroft near Wilstead

This post is to support the Manager with the on going development of person centred care for elderly people. The post requires the candidate to be working towards Level 4 NVQ in Care Management. This post would also suit someone with a Nursing background. The post is full time and will include time on call.

For more information
and an application pack please contact:
Ann Stephenson on 01234 333870 or by Email:
admin@standrewscarehomes.co.uk

Closing date for receipt of completed applications is Friday 3rd February 2012

This post is subject to Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure.

Duncote Hall Nursing Home
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Experience is preferred but not essential as full training will be given.
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Must hold food hygiene certificate and be able to prepare good nutritional food for residents.
Own transport essential.
For further information please contact Janice Knock, Home Manager on 01327 352277

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Crystal Lemon Care is a family run organisation providing domiciliary care to older people and people with learning difficulties within their own homes. Due to continued growth and expansion we are looking to recruit senior management based at our Head Office in Bedfordshire.

Care Team Manager Required
(Full time)
- Must be experienced in the Domiciliary Field and fully conversant with CQC regulations and be able to demonstrate drive and determination with strong management and supervisory skills
- Relevant Registered Manger, NVQ or Diploma Qualification in Health & Social Care
- Must be able to multi task and work under pressure
- Excellent communication, administration and computer skills required
- Excellent salary for right candidate
- Car driver essential

Company Trainer Required
(Full Time)
- To train Domiciliary Home Care Staff in all aspects of home care and in a variety of settings.
- Must be conversant with CQC Standards and able to design and deliver training courses
- PTTLS or DTLLs Qualified or equivalent
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- Excellent salary and hours negotiable for the right candidate
- Car driver essential

CV to info@crystallemoncareltd.co.uk
Tel: 01525 404950

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BEDFORD SCHOOL

BOARDING HOUSE ASSISTANT/CLEANER

Required to join our team and provide high standards of cleanliness at one of the School Boarding Houses. Experience in a similar role preferred.

Hours are an average of 15 per week, Monday to Friday 9.00 am – 12 noon during term time plus two weeks in school holidays.

For further details and an application pack please visit our website:
www.bedfordschool.org.uk/support-staff-vacancies

Bedford Charity is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. The successful applicant will be subject to an Enhanced CRB check, references and other checks.

www.bedfordschool.org.uk

Closing Date
2 February 2012

Keep Guard Day Nursery – Kempston
F/T Nursery Nurse/ Playworker – Level 3
To work with in the Nursery, Out of School / Holiday Club.
Salary is according to experience.
Applicants should contact (01234) 327955 or e-mail keepguardnursery@aol.com for a recruitment pack and further details
Closing date: 29th January 2012
Keep Guard Day Nursery is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children.

EXPERIENCED STOREMAN

Required for our expanding warehouse operation, good organisational skills and ability to work as part of a team, and also use own initiative, are essential.

Previous experience in either engineering or hardware preferred but not essential.

40 hours per week. Monday to Friday. Salary dependant on experience.

Applications including CV in writing only to. Personnel Manager, Cooks of Bedford Ltd, Unit 10 Brooklands, Woburn Road Industrial Estate, Kempston, Bedford, MK42 7UH. Or e-mail sales@cooksofbedford.co.uk.

Strictly no agencies.

www.jobsnow.co.uk

St John's Special School & College

Specialist in Communication & Interaction

Bedford Road, Kempston, Bedford. MK42 8AA
Tel: 01234 345565 Fax: 01234 327734
Email: office@st-johns-school.co.uk
Headteacher: Ron Babbage BA (Hons) PGCE MEd

VACANCIES

St John's School provides special education for children and young people with severe, profound and multiple learning difficulties, aged two to nineteen.

LEARNING SUPPORT ASSISTANTS

As a team member your role is to support teaching staff and pupils in a wide range of activities during the school day. Previous experience or an interest in Multi-sensory impairment (MSI) would be an advantage
The hours are 32.5 per week, term time only, plus 5 training days.
Rate of pay is £7.75 per hour.

MID-DAY SUPERVISORY ASSISTANTS

Required to support individual and small groups of pupils over the lunchtime period, 11.45-1.30pm, with feeding, supervision and care needs.

You may be based at any of our three sites, Kempston, Biddenham or Bromham Road in Bedford. Monday to Friday, term time only. Rate of pay is £6.46 per hour.

Closing dates for all of these posts:
Monday 30 January 2012 at 12 noon
Interview date for LSA posts – Wednesday 08 February 2012
Interview date for MSA posts – Thursday 09 February 2012

To obtain an application pack for any of the above posts please send an e-mail request to the school at office@st-johns-school.co.uk or for further details, please contact the school office.

St. John's School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and/or vulnerable adults and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Working towards equality

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Notices

Legal Notices

INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
IN BANKRUPTCY
NORTHAMPTON COUNTY COURT
No. 70005 OF 2007 **RE: PAUL IRVINE JEFFERY**
D.O.B.: 12th October 1964
I intend to pay within four months *from 20th February 2012* (being the last day for proving) the first and final dividend of 3.34 p/£.
Creditors who have not yet proved their debts must do so *by 20th February 2012* otherwise they will be excluded from the dividend. The required proof of debt form is available on the Insolvency Service website (www.bis.gov.uk/insolvency, select "Forms" and then form 6.37). Alternatively, you can contact my office at 2nd Floor, Sunley House, Bedford Park, CROYDON, CR9 1TX or telephone 020 8681 5166 to supply a form.
Mrs L Thomas, Official Receiver and trustee

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Public Notices

Tender Notice
Framework for the Provision of Passenger Transport Services
Tender Reference: CBC-0055-T-TC

Central Bedfordshire

The Council provides a range of transport services including local bus services for the general public, home to school transport for school children and students, and transport for adults and children with social or welfare needs. The services currently provide transport for approximately 6,500 passengers per day, through the delivery of over 700 routes using a mix of vehicle types including cars, minibuses, coaches and buses.

A new framework of approved suppliers for the provision of passenger transport services is now being set up. The framework will operate for up to 4 years and has an anticipated start date of July 2012. The framework will be split into the following categories of service (Lots):

Lot 1 - Short Notice and Urgent Transport
Lot 2 - Mainstream School Transport
Lot 3 - Special Educational Needs and Social Care Transport
Lot 4 - Supported Public Local and Community Bus Services

Applications can be made for one or more Lots.

Applicants must hold a relevant operator's licence or permit. Applicants must also be able to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the particular safety and welfare needs of the passengers who will be using the services. References must be provided.

Applications are welcome from single organisations or consortia from the public, private and voluntary/community sector.

The framework will be set up using a two-stage procurement process: a pre-qualification stage followed by a tender stage. Only shortlisted suppliers will be invited to take part in the tender stage. Suppliers that meet the standards required at tender stage will be awarded a place on the framework. Further information regarding the process is given in the application documents.

To express an interest and gain access to the application documents, please register on our electronic tendering system:

https://in-tendhost.co.uk/centralbedfordshire

Deadline for receipt of completed application documents is: 12 noon, Wednesday 22 February 2012

Contract Notice despatched to the Official Journal of the European Union (OJEU) on: Friday 20 January 2012.

All enquiries to procurement@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk

NORTHAMPTON BOROUGH COUNCIL
TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (GENERAL DEVELOPMENT PROCEDURE) ORDER 1995
NOTICE UNDER ARTICLE 8
PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) ACT 1990
APPLICATIONS FOR PLANNING PERMISSION

N/2012/0023 **2 Adelaide Terrace, Barrack Road –** Removal of rear external staircase and replacement spiral / open staircase, extension of rear bathroom roof, erection of decking / balustrade to rear and removal of rear door to be replaced with timber double glazed sliding door set. Grade II Listed Building within Barrack Road Conservation Area.

N/2012/0035 **Cricketers Arms PH, 43 - 45 Hervey Street –** Conversion of Public House into two no. 4 bedroom dwelling houses including two storey and first floor rear extensions. Within the Boot & Shoe Conservation Area.

N/2012/0037 **3 Back Lane, Hardingstone –** Glazed link and 3 dormer windows. Within the Curtilage of a Grade II Listed Building and Hardingstone Conservation Area

Members of the public may inspect copies of the applications, plans and any other documentation submitted at the One Stop Shop, Guildhall, St. Giles Square, Northampton, NN1 1DE during all reasonable office hours. Plans can also be viewed on-line at www.northampton.gov.uk, click on 'planning' and then 'planning search facility'. Anyone who wishes to make representations about these applications should write to the Planning Division, Guildhall, St. Giles Square, Northampton NN1 1DE or email planning@northampton.gov.uk by 16th February 2012.

Susan Bridge, Head of Planning
Northampton Borough Council

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 - SECTION 14
THE NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL (CREATON ROAD & GROOMS LANE, CREATON) (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC) ORDER 2012

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Northamptonshire County Council intend, not less than seven days from the date of this Notice, to make an Order the effect of which will be to prohibit traffic from proceeding along those lengths of Creaton Road and Grooms Lane, Creaton as specified in the Schedule below.

REASONS FOR RESTRICTION: The restriction is required for safety during carriageway preventative maintenance.

PERIOD OF CLOSURE: The proposed Order will come into effect on 2nd February 2012 and will continue in force for a period of eighteen months. An application may be made for the approval of the Secretary of State for Transport for the Order to be extended if this proves necessary. However, the restriction specified will have effect only at such times and to such an extent as is indicated by the display of signs prescribed by the Traffic Signs Regulations and General Directions 2002.

EXPECTED DURATION: It is expected that the roads will be restricted for up to 15 days for carriageway patching and up to 10 days for surface dressing/micro-asphalt. Closures will be applied during February/March 2012.

ALTERNATIVE ROUTES: As specified in the Schedule below.

Dated this 26th day of January 2012
QUENTIN BAKER
Director of Legal Services

PKG/T12/019

If you require any further information please contact Gary Thorp on 01604-364359.

SCHEDULE
(Lengths of roads of closed)

Creaton Road, Creaton – from junction of Brixworth Road to junction of Grooms Lane.

Diversion – for traffic heading east use Brixworth Road, The Green, Violet Lane, Welford Road, Brixworth Road, Spratton Road, Northampton Road, Harborough Road, High Street and Station Road. The route is vice versa for traffic heading west.

Grooms Lane, Creaton – from junction of Welford Road to junction of Brixworth Road.

Diversion – for traffic heading north east use Welford Road, Violet Lane, The Green and Brixworth Road. The route is vice versa for traffic heading west.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 - SECTION 14
(BRIDGE STREET, ANGEL STREET & ST. GILES SQUARE, NORTHAMPTON)
(TEMPORARY PROHIBITON OF TRAFFIC/ONE WAY TRAFFIC/PROHIBITON OF WAITING & LOADING/UNLOADING) ORDER 2012

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Northamptonshire County Council have made an Order the effect of which will be to restrict those lengths of Bridge Street, Angel Street and St. Giles Square, Northampton as specified in the Schedule below.

A further effect of this notice is to temporarily revoke the "Northamptonshire Borough Council (St. Giles Square & St. Giles Street) (Prohibition of Driving and On-Street Parking Places) Order 1995" in so far as it relates to St. Giles Square.

REASONS FOR RESTRICTION: The restrictions are required due to a structurally unsafe building in Bridge Street.

PERIOD OF CLOSURE: The proposed Order will come into effect on 27th January 2012 and will continue in force for a period of eighteen months. An application may be made for the approval of the Secretary of State for Transport for the Order to be extended if this proves necessary. However, the restriction specified will have effect only at such times and to such an extent as is indicated by the display of signs prescribed by the Traffic Signs Regulations and General Directions 2002.

EXPECTED DURATION: It is expected that the roads will be restricted potentially for eighteen months.

ALTERNATIVE ROUTES: As specified in the Schedule below.

Dated this 26th day of January 2012
QUENTIN BAKER
Director of Legal Services

PKG/T12/023

If you require any further information please contact Gary Thorp on 01604-364359.

SCHEDULE

Location	Angel Street, Northampton
Order Type	Temporary Prohibition of Traffic
Termination Points	Junction of Bridge Street for a distance of 70m eastbound
Diversion Route	Use Bridge Street, St. John's Street, Fetter Street.
Location	Angel Street, Northampton
Order Type	Temporary One Way (Westbound permitted only)
Termination Points	Junction of Guildhall Road for a distance of 35m westbound
Diversion Route	Use Fetter Street, St. John's Street, Swan Street.
Location	Bridge Street, Northampton
Order Type	Temporary Prohibition of Waiting and Loading/Unloading
Termination Points	West side, between property No. 2 and property No.36.
Location	Bridge Street, Northampton
Order Type	Temporary One Way (Southbound permitted only – Buses permitted both directions)
Termination Points	From junction of George Row to junction of St. John's Street
Diversion Route	Use St. John's Street, Victoria Gardens, Victoria Promenade, Derngate, St. Giles Square, George Row.
Location	St. Giles Square, Northampton
Order Type	Temporary One Way (Westbound permitted only – Cyclists permitted both directions)
Termination Points	From junction of Guildhall Road to junction of George Row
Diversion Route	Use George Row, Bridge Street, St. John's Street, Victoria Gardens, Victoria Promenade, Derngate.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 - SECTION 14
THE NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL (PUBLIC BRIDLEWAY LB8 – PARISH OF UPTON) (TEMPORARY CLOSURE) ORDER 2012

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Northamptonshire County Council have made an Order the effect of which is to temporarily prohibit pedestrians, equestrians and cyclists from proceeding along that length of Public Bridleway LB8 in the Parish of Upton as specified below. Access to land or premises adjacent to the said length of bridleway is unaffected.

RIGHT OF WAY TO WHICH RESTRICTION APPLIES: The bridleway that is due to be closed is LB8 in the Parish of Upton. The existing route to be diverted begins at the point marked A on the Order Map at National Grid Reference (NGR) SP 71028 60860 from Point A North for approximately 156 metres to terminate at Point B NGR SP 71029 61016.

The path is shown on the Order Map by a solid black line between the points A – B.

REASONS FOR RESTRICTION: The restriction is required on the grounds of public safety during ongoing works across the bridleway.

PERIOD OF CLOSURE: The proposed Order will come into effect on 27th January 2012 and will continue in force for a period of six months. An application may be made for the approval of the Secretary of State for Transport for the Order to be extended if this proves necessary. However, the restriction specified will have effect only at such times and to such an extent as is indicated by the display of notices.

ALTERNATIVE ROUTE: The alternative route begins at the point marked A on the Order Map at NGR SP 71028 60860 the route then travels generally north of east along the path to the opposite side of South Meadow road for approximately 44 metres to Point C NGR SP 71068 60879. The route then heads generally north for 130metres along South Meadow Road crossing the junction of bowling Green road and continuing to Point D at NGR SP 71040 61004. The route then crosses back over the road for 17 metres to Point B NGR SP 71029 61016.

The alternative route is shown on the Order Map by a solid black line between the points A – C – D – B.

Dated this 26th day of January 2012
QUENTIN BAKER
Director of Legal Services

PKG/ROW/007

If you require any further information please contact George Massingham on 01604 364349.

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Public Notices

HIGHWAYS AGENCY

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 – SECTION 14(1)(A)
THE A5 TRUNK ROAD (TOWCESTER, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE) (TEMPORARY RESTRICTION AND PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) ORDER 2012

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Secretary of State for Transport has made an Order on the A5 Trunk Road (Watling Street/London Road) at Towcester in the County of Northamptonshire to allow resurfacing work to be carried out.

The effect of the Order will be to –
(1) impose a 40 miles per hour speed restriction on the northbound carriageway of the A5 between its junction with the unnamed road leading to Pury end at Heathencote crossroads, to a point 150 metres south of its junction with Jenkinson Road;
(2) impose a 30 miles per hour speed restriction on the northbound and southbound carriageways of the A5 between its junction with the unnamed road leading to Pury End at Heathencote crossroads, to its junction with Northampton Road and Brackley Road, in Towcester;
(3) impose a 10 miles per hour speed restriction on the length of the A5 described in (2) above. when signs indicating "convoy working" are displayed;
(4) close the length of the A5 described in (2) above;
(5) close the layby situated adjacent to –
  (i) the northbound carriageway of the A5 approximately 50 metres south of its junction with Richmond Road;
  (ii) the northbound carriageway of the A5 approximately 100 metres south of its junction with Richmond Road;
  (iii) the northbound carriageway of the A5 approximately 180 metres south of its junction with Richmond Road; and
  (iv) the northbound carriageway of the A5 approximately 180 metres south of its junction with Vernon Road.
(6) prohibit vehicles from entering or leaving any side road situated on the length of A5 described in (2) above.

The work will be carried out over night between 19:00 hours and 06:00 hours and is expected to start on Monday 6 February 2012 and last for one month. The Order will come into force 30 January 2012.

Vehicles being used by Special Forces will be exempt from the speed restrictions. Vehicles being used by the emergency services will be exempt from the speed restrictions, closures and prohibition and vehicles being used in connection with the works will be exempt from the closures and prohibition. Diversion routes from Heathencote Crossroads via the unclassified road, A413, A43 and visa versa, or, for through traffic, from Old Stratford Roundabout via A508, M1 and A43 and visa versa will be well signed. Access to properties will be maintained at all times.

For further enquiries contact Neil Munday, a Project Manager on behalf of the Highways Agency on 0844 3728381.

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 – SECTION 14(1)(A)
THE A45 TRUNK ROAD (WELLINGBOROUGH, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE)
(TEMPORARY PROHIBITION AND RESTRICTION OF TRAFFIC) ORDER 2012

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Secretary of State for Transport has made an Order on the A45 Trunk Road between Wellingborough and Rushden in the County of Northamptonshire to allow works to take place on the A45 Higham Road railway bridge.

The effect of the Order will be to -
(a) close the eastbound and westbound carriageways of the A45 between its roundabout junction with the A509 (Wilby Roundabout), and its roundabout junction with A5001 and B645 (Skew Bridge Roundabout); and
(b) impose a 50 miles per hour speed restriction on the eastbound length of A45 described in (a) above.

Work will take be carried out overnight between 20.00 hours and 10.00 hours and is expected to start on 3 February 2012 and continue for approximately 39 days. The Order will come into force on 27 January 2012.

Vehicles being used by the emergency services will be exempt from the closures and speed restriction. Vehicles being used by the special forces will be exempt from the speed restriction and vehicles being used in connection with the works will be exempt from the closure. A diversion route via the A509, A510, A6 and visa versa will be well signed. Access to properties will be maintained at all times.

For more information, please contact Paul Pytlik, a Project Manager on behalf of the Highways Agency on 01623 886588.

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984-SECTION 14(1)(A) AND (7)
THE M1 MOTORWAY (JUNCTIONS 16 TO 20) (TEMPORARY RESTRICTION AND PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) ORDER 2012

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Secretary of State for Transport intends to make an Order on the M1 Motorway, in the Counties of Northamptonshire and Leicestershire to allow drainage, resurfacing, fencing and general maintenance work to be carried out.

The effect of the Order will be to –
(1) impose a 50 miles per hour speed restriction on –
  (a) the northbound and southbound carriageways of the M1 from a point 400 metres south of the centrepoint of the southern overbridge at Junction 16 to a point 950 metres south of the centreline of Yelvertoft Road overbridge at Lilbourne (south of Junction 19);
  (b) the northbound carriageway of the M1 from a point 1800 metres south of the centreline of the Swinford Road overbridge (south of Junction 20) to a point 7000 metres north of Junction 20; and
  (c) the southbound carriageway of the M1 from a point 7000 metres north of Junction 20 to a point 700 metres south of the centreline of the Swinford Road overbridge (south of Junction 20);
(2) close the northbound carriageway of the M1 from its junction with the link road leading to the M45 at Kilsby (M1 Junction 17) to its junction with the entry slip road Junction 18 near Crick;
(3) close, at different times any slip road leading –
  (a) to and from the northbound and southbound carriageways of the M1 at Junction 18; and
  (b) to and from the northbound and southbound carriageways of the M1 at Junction 20; and
(4) close various lengths of the M1 described in (1) (a), (b) and (c) above and allow traffic to run on the hard shoulder.

Work is expected to start on Monday 13 February 2012 and continue for approximately nine weeks. The Order will come into force on 10 February 2012.

Vehicles being used for police, fire brigade or ambulance purposes will be exempt from the speed restriction and closures. Vehicles being used for special forces purposes will be exempt from the speed restriction and vehicles being used in connection with the works or by a traffic officer will be exempt from the closures. Diversion routes using the A5 or alternative junctions on the M1 will be well signed.

For further information, please contact Mike Newman, Project Manager on behalf of the Highways Agency, on 01623 886582.

Mike Lloyd, A Higher Executive Officer in the Highways Agency

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Public Notices

SOUTH NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNCIL

HACKNEY CARRIAGE/PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER'S, HACKNEY CARRIAGE & PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLE, AND PRIVATE HIRE OPERATOR LICENCE FEES 2012/13

Notice is hereby given that South Northamptonshire Council intends to vary the fees relating to their hackney carriage/private hire driver's licences, hackney carriage and private hire vehicle licences, and private hire operator's licences in accordance with Section 53(2) and Section 70 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976.

Licence fees and charges	Current £	Proposed £
APPLICATION FOR DRIVER'S LICENCE (NEW & RENEWAL) - 1YR	70.00	90.00
APPLICATION FOR DRIVER'S LICENCE (NEW & RENEWAL) - 3 YRS	120.00	200.00
APPLICATION TO RENEW HACKNEY CARRIAGE/PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLE LICENCE	220.00	250.00
APPLICATION TO RENEW HACKNEY CARRIAGE/PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLE LICENCE (VEHICLE UNDER 6 YEARS OLD)	220.00	220.00
APPLICATION TO RENEW HACKNEY CARRIAGE/PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLE LICENCE (VEHICLE OVER 6 YEARS OLD)	240.00	240.00
DRIVER'S KNOWLEDGE TEST - FIRST TWO ATTEMPTS	30.00	40.00
DRIVER'S KNOWLEDGE TEST - EACH SUBSEQUENT ATTEMPT	30.00	40.00

Copies of the proposed variation of fees are available for inspection on the council's website: www.southnorthants.gov.uk at the council offices: Springfields, Towcester NN12 6AE.

The offices are open Monday to Thursday from 8.45am - 5.15pm and Friday 8.45am - 4.45pm, but are closed on Bank Holidays.

Any person wishing to make objections or representations relating to the above fees may do so online at www.southnorthants.gov.uk, by email to licensing@southnorthants.gov.uk or by writing to Licensing, South Northamptonshire Council, Council Offices, Springfields, Towcester NN12 6AE by **WEDNESDAY 22nd FEBRUARY 2012.** If no objections are made within the 28 day objection period the proposed fees will come into force on **1st APRIL 2012.**

Andy Peston
Head of Public Protection & Development Management

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 - SECTION 14
THE NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL (VARIOUS ROADS, HOLCOT)
(TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC) ORDER 2012

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Northamptonshire County Council intend, not less than seven days from the date of this Notice, to make an Order the effect of which will be to prohibit traffic from proceeding along those lengths of the various roads in Holcot as specified in the Schedule below.

REASONS FOR RESTRICTION: The restriction is required for safety during carriageway preventative maintenance.

PERIOD OF CLOSURE: The proposed Order will come into effect on 2nd February 2012 and will continue in force for a period of eighteen months. An application may be made for the approval of the Secretary of State for Transport for the Order to be extended if this proves necessary. However, the restriction specified will have effect only at such times and to such an extent as is indicated by the display of signs prescribed by the Traffic Signs Regulations and General Directions 2002.

EXPECTED DURATION: It is expected that the roads will be restricted for up to 15 days for carriageway patching and up to 10 days for surface dressing/micro asphalt. Closures will be applied during February/March 2012.

ALTERNATIVE ROUTES: As specified in the Schedule below.

Dated this 26th day of January 2012

QUENTIN BAKER
Director of Legal Services

PKG/T12/013

If you require any further information please contact Gary Thorp on 01604-364359.

SCHEDULE
(Lengths of roads to be closed)

Back Lane, Holcot – from junction of Moulton Road to junction of Sywell Road.

Diversion – for traffic heading east use Moulton Road and Sywell Road. The route is vice versa for traffic heading west.

Poplars Lane, Holcot – from junction of Sywell Road to junction of Walgrave Road.

Diversion – for traffic heading north use Sywell Road, Main Street and Walgrave Road. The route is vice versa for traffic heading south.

Main Street & Walgrave Road, Holcot – from junction of Sywell Road to junction of Hannington Road.

Diversion – for traffic heading north use Sywell Road, A43, Red House Road, Main Street, Holcot Road and Hannington Road. The route is vice versa for traffic heading south.

Sywell Road, Holcot – from junction of Sywell Road to derestriction signs.

Diversion – for traffic heading south use Sywell Road, A43, Overstone Road, Chater Street and Holcot Road. The route is vice versa for traffic heading north.

Brixworth Road, Holcot – from junction of Sywell Road to entrance to The Grange.

Diversion – for traffic heading east use Scaldwell Road, Brixworth Road, High Street, Old Road, Scaldwell Road, Lamport Road, Walgrave Road, Old Road, Holcot Road, Walgrave Road and Main Street. The route is vice versa for traffic heading west.

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Clarke vows to wash away Euro exit pain in Bath

RUGBY UNION

JON Clarke is gearing up for what he feels is a massive fortnight in Northampton Saints' season as they prepare for their two remaining group matches in the LV= Cup.

Saturday's defeat to Munster in the Heineken Cup saw Saints eliminated from Europe, leaving them to focus on the Anglo-Welsh competition and the Aviva Premiership.

They travel to Bath on Saturday sitting top of Pool Four having secured bonus point victories in their opening two matches, and another would all but book their place in the semi-finals.

Clarke is keen to do that to move on from their disappointment in Europe, saying: "It takes another tournament away from us and we're disappointed because we wanted to play at the top level, but that's behind us now.

"It's disappointing but there are two more trophies to play for and that's what we've got to look forward to.

"We've got to learn from our mistakes. There are two good trophies to fight for so we've just got to up our game."

The coming weeks could see the Saints without up to ten players on duty for England and the Saxons during the Six Nations.

But Clarke believes a win over Bath will set them up well for this period.

He said: "The next two weeks are huge, we want to get to the semi-finals of the LV so I think we need a good win to get us through, so that's massive, and the boys have got to perform.

"Obviously, losing the internationals we don't know who's is going to play and who isn't yet, so there will be lots of ins and outs. It's all about continuity and we've just got to deal with it.

"It's good to have so many players in the England squad, but also we've got to deal with the fact that some might just turn up a couple of days before a game and we've got to play well and get some wins."

Myler calls on kids to shine as England men make way

RUGBY UNION

STEPHEN Myler believes that Northampton Saints' young players need to make the most of the opportunities they will be given over the coming weeks if they are to establish themselves in the first team.

The absence of potentially up to ten players on England or Saxons duty during the Six Nations means that director of rugby Jim Mallinder will be calling upon those players that maybe haven't featured as regularly as others during the season.

The likes of academy players Jamie Elliott, Ben Nutley and Mike Haywood have all gained first team experience during the course of the season in both the Aviva Premiership and Heineken Cup, while others could also be asked to make the step up over the next month.

Myler said: "I think these next few weeks are especially important for a few of the young players if they're going to come in, start off the bench to stake a claim for more game time and add to their personal development.

"So it's always an exciting time of year. Those players who may possibly come in have got to fit into the system and it's a learning process for them as well, so I think all we're trying to do is improve as individuals and, as a team, get better and that's all you can ask."

The Saints head to Bath on Saturday for their penultimate LV= Cup group match, with both sides currently top of their respective pools.

A win with a bonus point would put Northampton on the verge of reaching the semi-finals of the Anglo-Welsh competition, and Myler is aiming to do that to go some way to make up for their elimination from the European competitions following Saturday's 51-36 defeat against Munster in Milton Keynes.

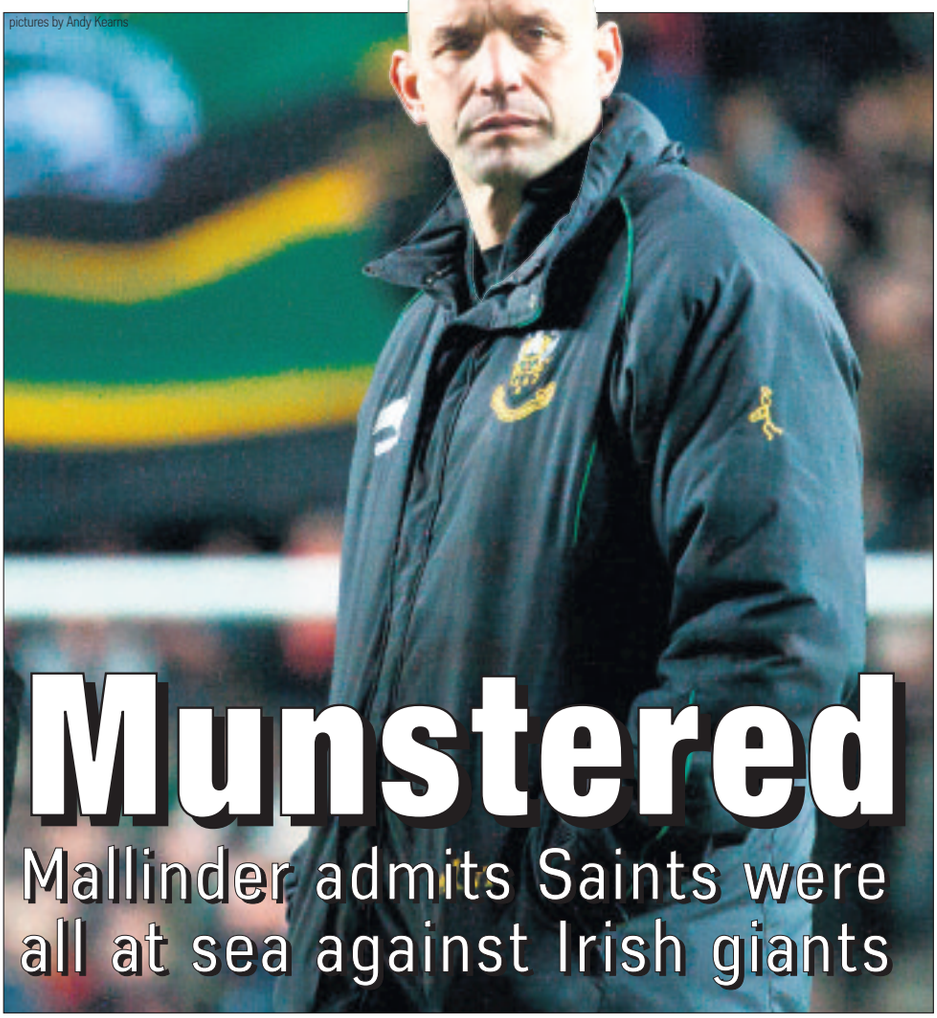
He said: "We were disappointed that at the weekend we bowed out of European competition, but for the squad we've got two games in the LV= Cup and we're very much focused on getting some positive results.

"We've been going reasonably well until the result of this past weekend. We're trying to keep the momentum that we felt like we've been generating and take that into the LV= Cup.

"We won it two years ago and we'd very much like to win it again."

■ STEPHEN Myler and Jon Clarke were both speaking at The Rugby Players' Association Business Club Networking Evening in partnership with Towergate tlc.

This was part of The RPA Player Development Programme which includes a career and education scheme to provide support, advice and guidance to their playing members to assist in preparing for life after rugby.



pictures by Andy Kearns

Munstered

Mallinder admits Saints were all at sea against Irish giants

BY MARC BAZELEY

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THERE is a sense that Munster are rapidly becoming Jim Mallinder's Moby Dick. Like Captain Ahab he seems destined to be on an ill-fated quest to vanquish them once and for all.

Of course, it is easy to forget that his first meeting against the Irishmen in charge of Northampton Saints saw them hold on for a memorable win at Franklin's Gardens.

Since then though, the record is played four and lost four, and Saturday's 51-36 mauling at their home away from home of *stadium:mk* was by far the biggest they had suffered at the hands of the two-time Heineken Cup winners.

While Captain Ahab's obsessive pursuit of the white whale cost him his ship, his crew and ultimately his life, the thing Mallinder and his team have lost is the chance to win any European silverware this season.

"We played badly," was the Saints director of rugby's brutally honest assessment. "In the first half our restarts meant that we couldn't get out of our half and we put a lot of pressure on ourselves.

"In the second half we tried to come back into it and got within five, but then we gave away an interception and suddenly the game really was over then.

"We didn't play well, Munster played better and that's it.

"Munster seemed to up their game from what I've seen in their previous five Heineken Cup games.

"They played well, slowed down a lot of our ball to stop us getting good momentum and looked after the ball.

"It was difficult to get the ball off of them, we gave away penalties and then they got opportunities that they scored the tries from."

The game had been balanced on a knife-edge at half time with the side deadlocked at 19-19. Yet they were undone by the deadly accurate kicking of Ronan O'Gara and a second half hat-trick from Simon Zebo – the respective past and potential future of Irish rugby.

For his part, the evergreen O'Gara landed all 24 of his points with his trusty right boot, while Northampton were left to rue not being able to make more of their dominance in the scrum that earned them two penalty tries.

Mallinder said: "You talk about getting your set piece right and our scrum was solid and dominant, but you need balance across your set piece.

"You need to get your line-out right and, most important, your restarts and we didn't.

"It just shows what a good game rugby union is and you can't just have dominance in the scrum and expect to win a game.

"Munster controlled just about every other area and came out on top. I think we've got players who can go up the middle, players who can go round the corner and players who can go wide.

"We've got threats all over, it's just that we couldn't quite get on the front foot and do that."

The loss, couple with the Scarlets' 16-13 victory away to Castres, meant Northampton failed to qualify for the Amlin Challenge Cup after finishing third in Pool One.

Instead, they now only have domestic honours to focus on for the rest of the campaign, starting with the trip to Bath for the first of their remaining two LV= Cup group matches on Saturday.

That was not on Mallinder's mind in the immediate aftermath of the loss in Milton Keynes though.

"You think about those things afterwards and for us this was about competing against one of Europe's best sides," he said. "We did well away in Munster, we competed and we could have won that. [On Saturday] We came second best."

As Bob Dylan said in his 115th Dream: "Boys, forget the whale."

TOUGH TALKING: Aidy Boothroyd delivers some words of wisdom to Lewis Young

picture by Andy Kearns

Boothroyd 'ready for a fight'

BY MARC BAZELEY
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AIDY Boothroyd is not a man to back down in the face of adversity, and Saturday's 2-1 defeat at the hands of fellow League Two strugglers Barnet means that Northampton Town still have plenty to put up with.

Once again, the Cobblers let a half time lead slip, having been in front after just ten minutes thanks to a header from the recalled Adebayo Akinfenwa. However, the final result was not without controversy thanks to two decisions made by referee Jock Waugh. The first was denying the hosts a penalty when Michael Jacobs went down in the area, then waving play on after Kelvin Langmead appeared to be fouled in the build-up to what proved to be the winner from Ricky Holmes on 69 minutes.

Northampton boss Boothroyd was livid afterwards, comparing those decisions to the infamous 'ghost goal' awarded against Watford in their 2-2 draw with Reading in 2008 when he was still in charge of the Hornets.

Nevertheless, he stopped short of laying the blame for the loss at the feet of the match officials and has vowed that he will not shirk from the challenge of ensuring Northampton's Football League status.

"I'm ready for a fight," said Boothroyd. "I know what it's all about and I knew that when I came in. I look at the potential of this place, I really enjoy working here and is it a low point? Yes it is, but you have a choice now.

"You either get on with it, put your fists up and get fighting, or you drop them and get knocked out, and I'm certainly not here to be knocked out. We're going to bounce back from this, definitely.

"It doesn't matter how well you play, things either go for you or they don't and you make your own luck.

"You've got to keep chipping away and we have to use this and bounce back from it.

"We'll keep working, we'll keep searching and we'll find that winning formula.

"We found it once already and we've had a little bit of adversity to deal with, but tomorrow is another day and we get on with it."

Akinfenwa's ninth goal of the season had given Northampton the lead early in the first half, but within three minutes of the restart it was all square again when Mark Byrne lashed home after clearance from a corner had fallen to him.

Holmes then secured the points for Barnet with his goal, sending the Cobblers back to the bottom of the division. However, they remain just one point from safety with 19 games remaining this season.

Boothroyd now takes his side to play-off contenders Torquay United on Saturday, with the Gulls having done Northampton a favour by beating second-bottom side Dagenham & Redbridge in their game in hand on Tuesday evening.

And although he has been pleased with how some aspects have improved since he took over, the boss is now acutely aware that they need to start turning those into results as they aim to climb out of the bottom two.

Boothroyd said: "When you're down there, it doesn't matter how good a player you are or how good a team you can be – it's results that count.

"But you don't get results unless you get consistent performances and that's what we are working towards. It isn't that a lighting bolt will come and away we go, it's going to take a lot of hard work behind the scenes and on the pitch.

"But I'm prepared to do that and the players are, and by the end of it I'm sure we'll look back on this and remember how miserable we were after that game and how happy it is now.

"We're one point away from being safe and providing we aren't still one point away from being safe at the end of the season then it will be stage one done.

"At the moment there are 19 to go, every game is very important and I think there has been improvements.

"It's not quite going for us yet, but it will."

One player that will not be involved with the team for the trip to Torquay is Paul Turnbull, who rejoined former club Stockport County on loan until February 25, while Boothroyd will still be hoping to move on several others.

As for players coming in, there could be a familiar face returning to Sixfields with defender Chris Doig currently on trial at the club. Northampton have also been linked with a move to bring back striker Steve Howard, who is currently with Leicester City.

■ continued from back
first opponents on Saturday, followed by Holland on Sunday and China on Tuesday, with all matches being broadcast by the BBC on the Red Button. It is all part of a busy build-up to the Olympics for the Great Britain team, who also have another Four Nations tournament in Spain as well as playing in the London test event and six-nation Investec London Cup, which is in June.

Panter starts build-up to Olympics

And while she is out in Argentina, Panter's team-mates at her club side Leicester will be competing in the Maximuscle Super Sixes Finals at Wembley Arena on Sunday afternoon. There they will face Reading just hours before Britain take on the Netherlands, and Panter admits there is some friendly rivalry between the players from both teams in the camp.

"When we're playing for Great Britain we are the closest team, but it's different when they pull on the orange of Reading and we're wearing the blue of Leicester," she said. "I've played for them since I was 16 so I'm very loyal to my team and the Reading girls are to their team as well.

"I don't know if we'll be able to watch any of it, but I'm sure we'll be getting text updates and we'll see who has the bragging rights at the end."

Lane out for a KO after time away

BOXING

ASH Lane feels that his two cancelled fights before Christmas have proved a blessing in disguise as it allowed him to clear his head after suffering his first professional defeat.

The Northampton southpaw was stopped against Jonathan Fry last October due to a large cut above his eye that was controversially ruled to have been caused by a punch. Lane (1-1-1) then saw potential bouts in Hull and his home town fall through, but is now set to fight again in Peterborough on Friday, March 9.

After taking some time off over Christmas, the super featherweight has now returned to training and is fully focused on being in perfect condition for his return to the ring.

"I can't wait for it," said Lane. "I was training hard for the others but I didn't really believe they were going to happen before Christmas.

"I was in shape and I was training, but I wasn't really going for it. That defeat hurt my pride because it was a stupid, biased decision and, to be honest, training wasn't the same for a couple of weeks afterwards.

"Now I've got my head back in the right place and I'm happy that those two fights didn't come off."

His opponent for the March date is not yet known although the former Far Cotton Boys amateur has made no secret of the fact that he wants a rematch with Fry.

Whoever he is paired with though, Lane has just one aim for his next contest.

"I want to get a knock-out because I haven't got one on my record," he said. "People see your status on Facebook and say that I'm a sore loser without having seen that last fight.

"I'll always hold my hands up and say fair's fair if I've been beaten, but that was a bad decision. I want to get a knock-out in my next fight and then I can say, 'here I am.' Hopefully this season will be better and I can be fighting for an area title soon."

■ MORGAN Bosley will face Jamie Edwards for the Midlands Schoolboys title on Sunday after coming through his semi-final in impressive fashion.

The 13-year-old Far Cotton Boys ABC fighter secured a unanimous decision win over Queensbury ABC's Dave Adamiec at the Ivy Leaf Club in Birmingham.

Head coach John Daly was particularly pleased with the way Bosley attacked his opponent's body to land some telling scoring shots. He will now take on Edwards, of Coventry's Triumph ABC, at the Liberal Club in Bedworth.

On the same day, Far Cotton's Miles Richardson boxes against Pinewood Star ABC's Gerry Rea in Cheshunt.

Kingsthorpe close in on Denny Plate final

BOWLS

KINGSTHORPE IBC booked their place in the semi-finals of the Denny Plate thanks to a ten shot victory over Southampton's Bannister Park IBC on Saturday.

Played at the neutral venue of Oxford City & County IBC, it was the Northampton club that started the better by picking up nine shots on the first end with none conceded.

But as the game progressed their opponents got back on terms and the lead changed frequently throughout the match.

At the three quarters stage of the match the scores were level, but Kingsthorpe applied pressure to take a nine shots lead over the next few ends. Then with barely four minutes left of the maximum four hours the last rink playing, skipped by Andrew Manton, ensured that Kingsthorpe had a ten shots advantage after his 20th end, making the last end unnecessary.

They now face Cumbrians Copeland IBC at Chelmsford's Falcon IBC in the final four on Saturday, April 14.

H&PSPORT

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Lancaster to make Saints wait on Red Rose top job

RUGBY UNION

THE contenders for the England captaincy from Northampton Saints are set to find out on Monday whether they will get the chance to lead their country during the Six Nations.

Dylan Hartley, Ben Foden and Tom Wood are all thought to be in consideration for the role when interim head coach Stuart Lancaster makes his decision next week.

Wood has long been rumoured to be the man for the role, although a foot injury means he is out of the Red Rose's opening two games away to Scotland and Italy.

However, that may not rule him out of the reckoning completely, with Lancaster previously stating he was looking for a pool of potential captains to pick from in case of injury.

The 25-year-old also lined up with the other five team captains at yesterday's Six Nations launch, although Lancaster is not restricting himself to just one potential skipper.

"For me, teams are borne out of great leaders not one great leader, so the priority for me at the start of the week has been to grow six, seven or eight players and give them responsibility, empower them and let them grow," he said: "It's a matter of me looking at the group and seeing by the end of the week where the natural leader is going to emerge from."

Leicester Tigers trio Tom Croft, Toby Flood and Ben Youngs are also believed to be on Lancaster's list of candidates for the job, as is Harlequins back row Chris Robshaw.

Meanwhile, the former Leeds player and director of rugby has backed Chris Ashton to play a role during England's defence of their Six Nations title.

Last week it was confirmed that the winger will leave Northampton for Saracens at the end of this season, having been at Franklin's Gardens since 2007.

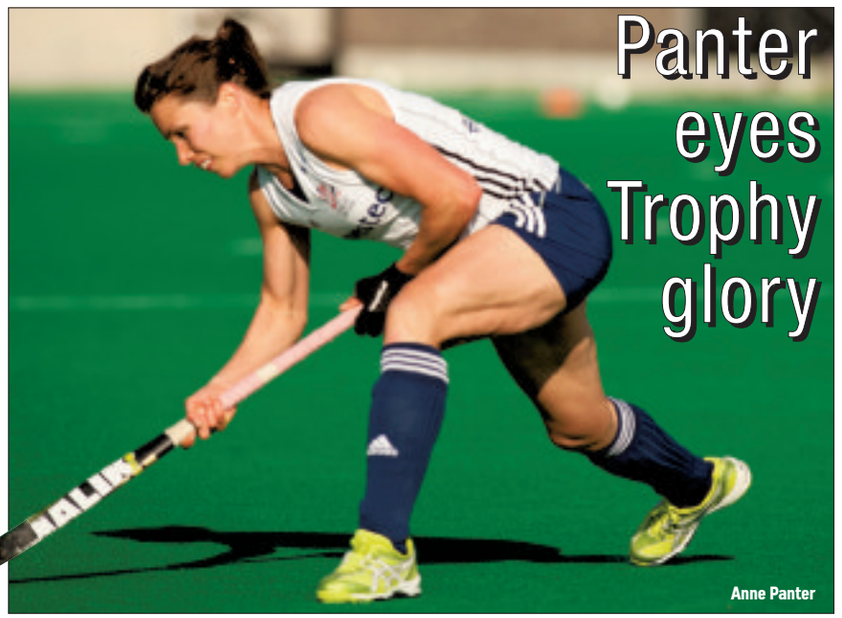
He was then left out of the Saints squad for their 51-36 Heineken Cup defeat against Munster on Saturday amid rumours of a bust-up with boss Jim Mallinder.

Lancaster has no problems with picking him though, saying: "I spent 15 minutes with every player and I had an extended chat with Chris. I think he is a great player and in the camp he has been fantastic.

"He has been enthusiastic and positive, is desperate to do well and desperate to be in the team."

■**Mallinder's met his Moby Dick – p 58**

Panter eyes Trophy glory



Anne Panter

BY MARC BAZELEY
marc.bazeley@hpnorthants.co.uk

ANNE Panter has completed the long road to recovery from injury. Now she aims to ensure that 2012 is a successful year for the Great Britain women's hockey team.

The 28-year-old from Northamptonshire only returned from two-and-a-half years on the sidelines due to needing reconstructive surgery on a ligament in her left knee.

Now, though, she is back to full fitness and is currently out in Argentina with the GB team for the annual Champions Trophy tournament, which starts this weekend. It will double up as part of the national team's preparations for this summer's London Olympics, and Panter is optimistic after forcing her way back into the reckoning.

"It was very much a case of getting back up to speed with international hockey," she said, speaking about how her first full season back has been so far.

"I've really kicked on over the winter months and I'm getting back to being the player that I used to be in my head. There are 29 of us in the training squad and 16 will go to the Olympics, but at the moment we are all just concentrating on this."

Britain go into the Champions Trophy in Rosario having finished runners-up to South Korea in the Four Nations competition held in Cordoba at the end of last week.

They topped the group with wins over the Koreans, current World Champions Argentina and New Zealand, only to be edged out 3-2 in the final.

GB now face favourites the Netherlands, emerging nation China and Japan in the Champions Trophy group stages.

And Panter believes the experience from the warm-up event will stand them in good stead, saying: "It gave us the chance to play against three very different sides.

"Japan are a tough side, but they play a very similar style to all of the other Asian sides.

"As for the Dutch, we've always had tough games against them. Yes, they are ranked number one in the world but we fully believe that we can beat anyone.

"When I first started playing there was a gap between the top few nations and the rest, but that has come down. The format of the tournament also means that after the group stages anyone can still win it because of the quarter finals, which is something new for the Champions Trophy."

The Japanese will provide Britain's

■**continued on page 59**

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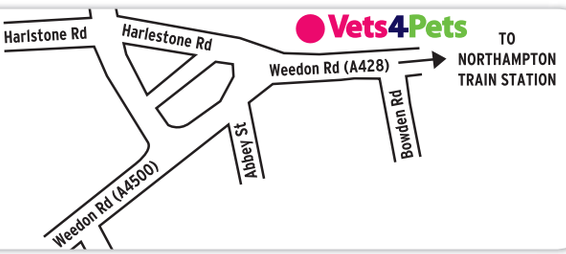

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